

# Recreation



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The National Recreation Association is a nationwide, nonprofit, nonpolitical and nonsectarian civic organization, established in 1906 and supported by voluntary contributions, and dedicated to the service of all recreation executives, leaders and agen-

cies, public and private, to the end that every child in America shall have a place to play in safety and that every person in America, young and old, shall have an opportunity for the best and most satisfying use of his expanding leisure time.

*For further information regarding the Association's services and membership, please write to the Executive Director, National Recreation Association, 8 West Eighth Street, New York 11, New York.*



NOVEMBER 1957



# Recreation\*

THE MAGAZINE OF THE RECREATION MOVEMENT

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## On the Cover

SKIING TIME IS COMING. Bright slopes and crisp air conspire to bring out the skiers, skaters and others who ignore the bite of the wind for rollicking sports in the snow. According to the 1956 *Recreation and Park Yearbook* (published by the NRA) sixty-eight cities in the United States reported 31,460 participants in just skiing for the year 1955. Photo courtesy Sun Valley News Bureau.

## Next Month

National Recreation Congress pictures and the Congress Story, of course. Don't forget, too, that December carries our Annual Index. An excellent article on the techniques of teaching skiing to beginners; "Last Minute Holiday Hints" and details of a Santa Claus school. "Grass Roots Recreation," by Charles H. Odegaard, Waukesha County, Wisconsin, describes the job of recreation agent; "Recreation, Medicine and the Humanities," by Joseph B. Wolfe, M.D., is condensed from his address at the Regional Institute on Hospital Recreation.

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# Recreation in the Age of Enjoyment

Editorial

Paul F. Douglass

OUR AGE BEARS many titles. To W. H. Auden it is the age of anxiety. Howard Mumford Jones sees it as the age of violence—one dark century of increasing horror. Professor Arnold Toynbee classifies it as the age of militarism. Winston Churchill calls it the age of coexistence—or co-extinction, as you prefer. Shannon and Weaver recognize our times as the age of automation rooted in a matured theory of mathematical communication. To J. Robert Oppenheimer we live in the age of the atom. James B. Conant sees us as standing on the edge of the age of solar energy. Russell Davenport names our era as the age of fine phrases.

Our age has been variously described as the age of apathy, devoid of burning commitments which once made life a crusade; as the age of the neurotic self; as the age of distraction which gives us fidgety souls; and conversely as the age of faith with a return to the church. I propose, however, to discuss our era as the *age of enjoyment!* In the closing decades of our century our pace quickens as we advance toward the fulfillment of the ideals of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, once asserted goals of the Declaration of Independence.

## Ten Professional Problems

The rapid emergence of the age of enjoyment, since the end of World War II, has brought to focus certain theoretical, professional and practical problems. Let us briefly discuss ten of these issues.

**Definition of Field.** The first relates to a clear definition of the field of recreation. We need to know what recreation includes and excludes. It is not a segment of activity attached to physical education. It is not a program for juvenile reform. It is not group work. It is not education as commonly understood. It is not an adjunct of industrial personnel to keep workers happy at their jobs. It is not bait to get men to go to church. Recreation is an independent area of life, requiring its own unique disciplines, and it should be numbered among the professions. The clear-cut definition of the field which recreation occupies in life will come about through the active professional participation of men and women working in close cooperation with the universities, especially the graduate divisions. We need thorough exploration of the meaning of recreation.

**Active Professional Awareness.** The second problem stems from the need for active professional awareness. By this

I mean working membership in professional societies. The Southern regional study, *Recreation As a Profession in the Southern Region*,\* shows that in the upper South about a half of the recreation personnel belongs to state societies, a third to the National Recreation Association, a quarter to the American Recreation Society, and a scattering in other groups. (It should be clear to all that the National Recreation Association is a lay organization, the American Recreation Society, a professional one.)

This membership indicates a far smaller participation than juke-box operators find necessary to maintain their interests. The profession needs the active membership support and society participation of every man and woman identified with recreation.

**Inspired Leadership.** Leadership too often has been inadequately trained or is functioning on minimum standards which do not utilize the full powers of a really conscientious worker. The proposal of certification is also a part of this problem, for legalizing the profession is merely setting an arbitrary minimum standard and not raising sights to those real standards written on the human heart.

**Status.** This problem is closely related to the above. It exists as a result of the necessity for recognized status of the profession. Three-fourths of the Southern communities which employ full-time recreation workers did not have, according to the Southern regional study, job descriptions in writing. We need to concern ourselves with classification, compensation and security. Side-by-side with the development of professional awareness stands the need for a continuous pressure for clear-cut personnel policies, improved salary scales and professional assurance of professional support in maintaining the integrity of work free from political interference.

**Recruitment.** Stable personnel relationships, adequate salaries and good conditions of work will, of themselves, be insufficient forces to supply the profession with adequately trained personnel. The profession has demands for personnel exceeding any visible supply. The demand to fill vacancies in the South exceeds the entire number of recreation graduates in the United States in any recent year.

The encouragement of youth to enter the profession thus becomes an urgent responsibility of the professional societies, the universities, the field agencies, the communities and the National Recreation Association, which is performing its part. The Southern study shows that the curriculums of Southern institutions are operating far below estimated student capacity. This means there are idle facilities at a time that there is urgent need of graduates.

**Recreation Education.** Recreation education is offered at over fifty colleges and universities. For the most part the

DR. DOUGLASS, noted educator, author and government consultant, is chairman of the NRA National Advisory Committee on the Recruitment, Training, and Placement of Recreation Personnel. This material is excerpted from a speech delivered at an L. H. Weir Recreation Banquet at Indiana University.

\* Available from the National Recreation Association Recreation Center, 8 West Eighth Street, New York 11. \$3.75.

programs are centered in widely distributed geographical areas in publicly supported institutions. The pattern however calls for educational statesmanship to provide standard undergraduate programs cooperating closely with graduate institutions. The problem is to see that the nation has geographically accessible programs in sufficient number to meet the needs. Likewise, it is desirable to discourage the development of recreation programs in institutions which have neither the faculty, facilities, resources or student load to justify the offering.

One of the chief concerns in the education field lies in the stimulation of faculty members to professional growth. The Southern study shows that recreation educators are giving little time to research and professional writing.

**Field Work.** Every recreation leadership curriculum should include field experience as an integral part of the total education program. No area of recreation activities provides a better opportunity for interaction of cooperating agencies and universities through the catalytic agent of the student. Field experience is important to the student, to the institution and to the operating agency. The Sub-Committee on Undergraduate Education\*\* has prepared an important report of student field experience. This sets the standards of relationship in field work and provides for an evaluation of the experience program.

Four developments can be helpful to recreation education. The first is the relationship of student *field experience* to academic education. The agencies have an obligation to make positions available to students; the institutions have the obligation to see that student field experience is academically substantial. On the graduate level, likewise, the agencies have the obligation to provide *internships*, as has been done in several instances. These positions again bring the university and the agencies into teamwork relationships. Recreation education needs more and more adequate *fellowships* at the graduate level. These can come from public and private sources.

**In-service Training.** In-service training has been given an outstanding leadership at the University of Indiana. Professor Garrett Eppley and his Sub-Committee on In-Service

\*\* Of the NRA National Advisory Committee on the Recruitment, Training and Placement of Recreation Personnel.

Training\*\* developed an outstanding document on in-service training. Under the stimulating influence of professional associations, it is to be hoped that more attention will be given to the continuing educational growth of personnel.

**Coordination of Specialization.** Already recreation leadership and administration is undergoing functional specialization. Areas, such as public community recreation, park administration, forest administration, hospital recreation, mental hospital recreation, voluntary youth servicing agencies, industrial recreation, welfare agency recreation, church recreation, recreation in penal institutions, tourism recreation, commercial recreation and private club recreation are already developing special fields of activity. Especially in hospital recreation a theoretical foundation and effective therapeutical experience are being demonstrated.

These various groups tend to have their own specialized professional associations such as the National Industrial Recreation Association, the American Institute of Park Executives and the American Camping Association. These are influential and cooperative groups. We need the teamwork of all the societies in a common front. Perhaps the specialized area of campus recreation deserves mention as a field of great potential service.

**Cooperation of Association.** Because the task of meeting the demands for recreation leadership develops upon the professional workers, the need for understanding cooperation among the perhaps dozen major professional societies in recreation and allied fields becomes imperative. The National Recreation Association offers its services as a central secretariat.

Further there needs to be a closer relationship and understanding with the commercial recreation associations and operating centers. By commercial recreation I refer to recreation services provided by private enterprise for profit. To this point there has been little noticeable use of professionally trained recreation personnel in commercial units. Likewise there has been little demand from the field for special training for recreation workers for service in commercial recreation. Nevertheless, city recreation departments are finding areas both of cooperation and competition—and often friction. More interaction with commercial recreation forces will be beneficial. ■



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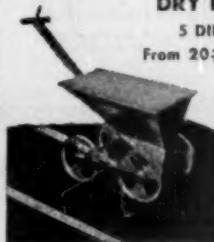
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Readers! You are invited to send letters for this page to Editor, RECREATION, 8 West Eighth Street, New York 11—so that your ideas, opinions and attitudes may be exchanged with others on the wide range of subjects of concern to us all. Here is your chance to agree or disagree with the authors of our articles. Keep letters brief—not more than 250 words.

—The Editors.

### Indian Relationships

Dear Sirs:

I present the attached photograph in hope you will find it suitable for RECREATION. The two people in the photograph are Edwin Jacobs, representing Utah State Extension Service, and Jason Chapoose, a fourteen-year-old Ute Indian who lives on a reservation. It was taken during a recent reservation recreation leadership session conducted by Mr. Jacobs and myself.



I feel that this photograph tells a story of significance. It seems to be the ambition of the white race to educate and sway Indians to the white man's way of life. In spite of millions of dollars spent by the government and private agencies in an effort to educate these people in agriculture and technical fields, limited progress has been made. Yet this race shows a real interest in white men's recreation activities. They seem to be willing and anxious to learn about the games played by white men and to compete with and against white men in these games.

I believe that more progress has been made with the Indians in less time in the field of recreation than in any other field. People who work with this proud race are coming to realize that it is through recreation that working relationships will improve and progress will be made in other fields.

The photograph demonstrates a closer and better working relationship

between two different races than has been known in the past.

CLAYNE R. JENSEN, *Chairman, Division of Recreation, Extension Service Recreation Specialist, Utah State Agricultural College, Logan, Utah.*

### In Asian Countries

Sirs:

I have seen some issues of RECREATION and I must say that I very much appreciated the matter I read. In India and other Asian countries, recreation is becoming more organized than before and it is increasingly becoming of concern to the community. It is my hope that recreation in Asia will be so organized as to strengthen family life and community feelings and not promote the wrong type of individualism.

I am confident that RECREATION Magazine will provide me material for thinking. I am looking forward to the numbers that will come to me during the course of the coming year.

V. M. KULKARNI, *Field Consultant, International Union for Child Welfare, New Delhi, India.*

### On "Encroachment"

Sirs:

We read with keen interest and a great deal of pleasure your June 1957 issue of RECREATION. From our standpoint it is one of the finest issues we have seen. It contains a number of excellent articles that are most helpful and timely. In fact, we regard this issue so highly that I wrote to Mr. Prendergast suggesting that state park authorities would appreciate having copies made available to them.

BEN H. THOMPSON, *Chief, Division of Recreation Resource Planning, United States Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

### Would Like to Hear

Sirs:

I am attempting to introduce the game of sixteen-inch slow-pitch softball



in the schools and recreation areas in and around San Diego. It is my belief if a few teams begin to see the value of such an activity for all age groups the benefits and enjoyment gained would be everlasting and sought by others, as well.

I should like to hear from as many schools and areas as possible where this game is played or has been played, in terms of why the game was introduced, its acceptance or rejection and why, the number of participants. Their attitudes about the game, and any special rules used other than the official rules proposed by the Chicago Umpires Protective Association.

Any information concerning sixteen-inch slow-pitch softball you can provide would be greatly appreciated. A list of names and addresses of people interested in the game would be also most helpful.

JOHN HALVERSON, Roosevelt Junior High School, 3366 Park Boulevard, San Diego, California.

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## Things You Should Know . .

► **A TRAVEL STUDY** of tourists visiting Great Smoky Mountains National Park in 1956, has recently been published in a beautiful folder. The survey was a cooperative venture conducted by the North Carolina State Highway and Public Works Commission, the Tennessee State Department of Highways and Public Works, and the United States Bureau of Public Roads. Among interesting facts turned up, it was discovered that more people come to this park each year than visit Yellowstone, Yosemite, Glacier, Grand Canyon or any other of the national parks.

Maintaining services, year after year in proportion to the need, and handling the problems of such traffic, are not things that can be left to blind chance. Therefore, this study was planned to provide the sort of information upon which sound planning can be based. Methods employed in making the study are explained. Further information, or a free copy of the study, may be obtained from the State Advertising Division, Raleigh, North Carolina. Please mention that you read about this in RECREATION.

► **NEW MAGAZINE!** As of January 1, 1958, the National Industrial Recreation Association will have a magazine of its own; but its name has not as yet been announced. We welcome it to the field of recreation publications. This, by the way, will be separate and apart from the national *Industrial Sports and Recreation* magazine.

► **THE NEW HIGH SCHOOL PHOTO CONTEST** has just been announced by Eastman Kodak. Sweeping changes have been made, presenting contestants with increased opportunities for recognition. They will, for instance, compete only against other students in the same grade, for state merit certificates; then national award winners will be chosen from among certificate holders. Cash prizes, of \$10,400, are double this year. More than 550 high school students were recognized last year, with 256 cash awards. Grand award winners received \$300 each.

A selection of last year's prize pictures formed a traveling exhibit, available to schools without charge, and a selection of the new prize winners will be treated in similar fashion. For further information write Kodak High School Photo Contest, 343 State Street, Rochester 4, New York.

► **BEFORE A COMMUNITY PLANS A PROGRAM** of almost any type for its aged citizens, it is generally advisable that a comprehensive and detailed "self evaluation" of local resources be made, according to a Survey of Chronic Illness Needs and Services made in St. Louis and reported in the July 1957 issue of the bulletin, *Adding Life to Years*, published by the Institute of Gerontology, State University of Iowa. Careful investigation should reveal not only those facilities which are available, but also the degree to which they are currently meeting the needs of the community's aged persons.

► **JUNIOR PLAYERS ARE BEING RECOGNIZED** for the first time next season, when the United States Table Tennis Association sends a junior team to the International Table Tennis Matches in London, England, March 25 to 29, 1958. Adult contestants have been sent to world meets for years, many of them entered by recreation directors. The National Junior Team Championships will be played in Chicago on January 11 and 12, 1958.

► **A NATIONWIDE CONTEST** to select the "Outboard Boating Club of the Year" has been announced by the Outboard Boating Club of America, national association of boating enthusiasts and manufacturers and sellers of marine equipment. Choice of the outstanding club, based on the group's activities from May 1 to October 31, will be made by a panel of editors of some of the nation's best known boating magazines. First prize in the competition is an all-expense-paid trip for two to the 1958 Chicago National Boat Show, including round trip by air, a three-day stay at the Congress Hotel, appearance as

guests of honor at ceremonies opening the boat show and other festivities. In addition, the winning club will be awarded a \$500 cash prize. Cash awards of \$300 and \$200 will be made to the second and third place clubs.

Final selection of the "Outboard Boating Club of the Year" will be announced prior to the opening of the ten-day Chicago National Boat Show on February 7th. Further information may be obtained from Outboard Boating Club of America, 307 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago 1, Illinois.

► **KAB IN ACTION:** Litter bags are being passed out to motorists in many states, as a part of the Keep America Beautiful Campaign. In New Hampshire, the Automobile Dealers Association urges everyone, "Don't Be a Litter Bug; Use a Litter Bag." At the Long Beach Congress, "Parky Kits" containing two litter bags which could be hung on your car doors, were made up especially for the Long Beach Recreation Department to give out to delegates. We used them when driving to San Francisco, and they were very handy.

Some car manufacturers are also beginning to join this nationwide crusade to end the litter habit. Publicity in the *Los Angeles Times* on Sunday, June 16, 1957, centered around the new litter bag for Chevrolets. The campaign in Southern California is also receiving assistance from the Service Station Association, representing two thousand dealers. General Motors is now a subscribing member of Keep America Beautiful, the national organization created by American business and industry.

► **IN SPEAKING ON PHYSICAL FITNESS** before the Senate last spring, the Honorable Richard L. Neuberger of Oregon called attention to an article, "Does Sports Equal Fitness?" by Mortimer H. Morris, assistant professor of recreation at Oregon State College, published in the *New Republic*, April 29, 1957. He recommended that it be printed in the *Congressional Record*. Mr. Morris speaks of our high-pressure sports promotion in America, and points out that it has not resulted in an athletically superior country and that, disturbingly enough, a fitness survey team led by Dr. Hans Kraus disclosed European children to be stronger. "Why," he asks, "are our sports programs failing to produce a physically fit America?" And he answers his own question, "Because by its very nature a highly competitive sports program is selective in its choice of participants. For every boy or girl who makes the team, there are thirty or forty who do not. . . ." ■

## Editorially Speaking

### THANKSGIVING PRAYER

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, we thank Thee for the gift of responsibility. Give us this day our daily bread of courage and wisdom, and forgive us our debts of past failures as we forgive those who have failed us. And lead us not into the temptation of indifference to the great issues and needs of our time. But deliver us from the evils of doubt and fear and suspicion and all pettiness. Grant that out of the wide fellowships and noble companionships of our day may come a deep purpose to go forward as we have never gone forward before. Give us the strength to translate our dreams into the concrete things that must be done day by day to realize those dreams. And may the inspiration of great men and women of all ages be and ever abide with us.

—From *Senior Citizen*, November 1955.

#### Do Our Children Read?

Some remarks made by Governor Frank G. Clement of Tennessee in the July issue of *The Tennessee Conservationist* are right in line with the "Explore with Books" theme of Children's Book Week, November 17 to 24 (see page 324.)

"We have heard much recently to the effect that Johnny can't read," writes the governor. "Most critics place the blame in the laps of our public school teachers. . . . But the blame, in my opinion, must be shouldered by the parents, who should teach him. . . ."

"It can be done only through introducing the child, at the earliest age possible, to the vast world of good books that eagerly await his exploration. . . ."

" . . . As with everything else, learning to read and enjoying this pastime can only be accomplished by reading. To encourage the child to read, he must be offered the best books available in order to hold his interest.

"Book stores are filled with such books; school and public libraries are stacked high with them. Most of the larger cities now have bookmobiles which bring the best in reading material practically to your front door. Too many of these books, I regret to report, are gathering dust instead of the fingerprints of the young.

"Won't you please see that your child makes use of these many facilities?"

Do not recreation leaders also have an opportunity and a responsibility in this direction?

#### Jobs for Volunteers

Those who have problems in successfully using and keeping volunteers will be interested in points brought out at a workshop, "New Horizons for Volunteers," recently held at the National Social Welfare Assembly. Among them:

The needs of volunteers (and we are interested in them as persons and constituents of our recreation centers) are the same for both volunteer and professional leaders. They are the need for—

1. *A feeling of accomplishment and satisfaction.* Give volunteers more work and responsibility, and promote them to committee and board membership. Former staff who volunteer services make able volunteers.

2. *A feeling of being wanted.* Small courtesies give a feeling of welcome. Interesting jobs or, in the case of menial tasks, explanation of usefulness to program can elicit responsible work.

3. *A feeling of security.* Security can be strengthened by training and support of the professional staff.

4. *A feeling of recognition.* Recognition can be given by awards, personal letters of recognition, reports to board, and by consideration as an individual.

Mrs. Henry M. Dodge, who is chairman of the National Social Welfare Assembly-United Community Funds and Councils' Advisory Committee on Citizenship Participation, said that confusion exists among both volunteers and professionals regarding their respective job responsibilities. Some jobs are

clearly accepted as responsibilities of the professional; others of the volunteer. There is a middle ground in which there are no accepted rules, however, which results in confusion. She urged professionals to be more imaginative and creative in thinking of jobs for volunteers. "Try something new," she said, "because every volunteer is useful if there is careful interviewing, thoughtful placement, and consideration and understanding of individual capabilities."

Examples of ways in which imagination can be used creatively in jobs for volunteers are: Involve them in organizing new program in suburban areas; ask volunteers to assist professionals in office management, as case aides, as friendly visitors to senior citizens; assign skilled volunteers to interesting tasks such as volunteer director of volunteer group.

Mrs. Dodge urged consideration of aptitudes in assigning volunteers. "Short-term artists" can do terrific two- to three-weeks- or month-long jobs, such as plans for annual meetings. Long-term planners do a better job on a task such as organizing a volunteer program. Think of new ways to use groups that want to volunteer as a group. Take them in "teams." They can staff hospital desks and similar jobs on rotation basis.

Stop worrying about "motivation," she said. "Remember instead the four basic needs and keep them in mind when planning a volunteer program. The volunteer shares the professional's desire to make the world better because she lives in it, and all volunteers want to make a contribution as useful citizens."

#### Automation

If only a fraction of what technologists promise for the future is true, within a very few years automation can, and should, make possible a four-day work-week, longer vacation periods, opportunities for earlier retirement as well as a vast increase in our material standards of living. . . .

We must do all in our power to make sure that the potential abundance of the new technology will be used with social wisdom to improve standards of living and welfare, and to provide increased leisure, for all Americans.

If we accept the challenge of the new technology, if we use foresight and act wisely and vigorously, we can help to usher in an age of abundance and freedom, the like of which the world has never known—WALTER P. REUTHER, in *Here We Are*, UAW publication, May, 1957. ■



# An Outsider Looks at *Recreation*

*This frank article on important aspects of our non-work time will stimulate your thinking and prove an excellent discussion piece. Let us know your reaction to it. . . .*

Harold W. Williams

**T**WENTY-FIVE hundred years ago, the Greeks had a word for *leisure*. It was *schole*. It is the root of our own word for *school*; that is, a place and a time for learning. Today, our schools are places of learning, but I am afraid that we have forgotten that our leisure, in addition to being a time for sheer fun, ought to be more of a time for learning than it now is. What is even more regrettable, I fear that many of our recreation leaders are not so concerned about this end of the matter as they should be.

The ancient Greeks had a definition for happiness which went as follows: "The exercise of vital powers along lines of excellence in a life affording them scope." It would be nice if we all had an opportunity to exercise our "vital powers" along lines of excellence in jobs that give us ample scope to do so, and some of us are fortunate enough to be in that position. But I needn't tell members of the recreation profession that many people simply do not have jobs of that type and that even those who have are working only a small part of the time.

Perhaps there was a time in our civilization when our work was so consuming of our energies that we needed to do little else in our free time except to rest or to play. Certainly no one should quarrel with the idea that leisure is at least partly a time to relax. We all like to stretch out on a hammock on a summer afternoon and idly watch the insects; or to watch a good program on television; to see a ball game; to play an idle parlor game; to go to a movie.

But leisure, as the derivation from the Greek root for school suggests, is also a time to learn—a time to cultivate and use vital powers. If the leaders of our recreation movement are really concerned about leisure time, then I suggest that they need to be much more concerned as a group than they now are about learning and perhaps a little less preoccupied with "play for play's sake." Otherwise, we might appropriately continue to call recreation the "play movement" (which it once was), and turn to other leadership to help us develop the other important aspects of our non-



work time in this present complex age.

Do we not have a right to expect that our recreation leaders will help us seek happiness in our leisure time along the lines of that ancient Greek definition? Should there not be an appraisal of our recreation programs to see if they do in fact offer us the opportunity to exercise our vital powers? Should not recreation programs stimulate us to strive for excellence when we do exercise those powers? Should they not broaden every avenue along which we might employ the vital life forces within us?

Do they? To many people, recreation leaders seem over-preoccupied with the frivolous, the trivial, the time-killing game and the artificial ice-breaker. If the recreation movement is to attain the stature it seeks, it needs nobler ideals and more purposeful functions.

Please do not think that it is my purpose in any way to disparage the philosophy and fine idealism of the founders of the recreation movement in America. Their great contributions to human happiness need no defense from me nor are their reputations likely to suffer from anything I might write. But what they preached and taught must be viewed in the light of what they knew about their world at the time in which they lived. It was a very different world from the one we know today, a world which often looked upon play as sinful, a world in which the masses were devoting all their time to the struggle to climb out of the slums and tenements and into a world of light and air. The doctrine that people had a right to enjoy life, to play, to have fun, was a radical doctrine in those days, and we rightly pay homage to the men and women who had the daring and the nobility to preach it.

But ours is a very different world. We have material possessions to an extent undreamed of just a few years ago. We have ever-extensive leisure. More and more of our people are educated. We have moved in large numbers from crowded cities to suburban developments. There are more of us—more older people, more younger people. There are more in the middle class. The automobile has made us more mobile. Labor-saving devices create even more leisure for women and children, as well as men. Our very abundance of material comforts means that, relatively speaking, we get less enjoyment from them because they come so easily.

MR. WILLIAMS is associate director of the Office of Community Services, Department of the Air Force, Washington, D.C.



These facts call for new appraisals of the purpose and worth of recreation, not just a recital of creeds and principles enunciated years ago to fit an entirely different set of facts.

Perhaps the time has come for recreation leaders to make up their minds. Are they interested only in organized play or is their goal more fruitful leisure-time experience? There is a large place for play in the latter, but there is also an important place for learning.

The life spirit which makes man what he is has its roots in four quests: the search for truth; the attempt to create, discover and enjoy beauty; the pursuit of goodness; and the seeking of fellowship with other men. As we strive toward these goals, we become men more and animals less. When we neglect them we lose our humanity and our civilization begins to merge with the so-called lower forms of life.

In our struggle for material comfort, most of us have to turn aside from these quests for forty hours a week. We justify ourselves in the knowledge that, after sleeping for fifty-six hours, there are seventy-two hours left to us to refresh and enrich our lives and our civilization. We buy material comforts and leisure time with our work, so that we may have ample scope to live our lives when we are not working.

But we, the people, need help. We need leaders who understand and share these ideals. We need allies. They ought to be in the recreation movement. At the very least, our recreation leaders shouldn't put obstacles in our path. We shouldn't expect to be turned away from the noble to the frivolous, from the important to the trivial.

Perhaps it will be clearer if we list the vital powers of man. They fall into three general categories. First, there is the power of the mind, the power to think, to reason and to learn; then there is the power to create and appreciate beauty; and, finally, there is physical power, the power to run and jump and throw and lift. Each of these powers can be turned to the study and search for truth, beauty, goodness and fellowship; indeed, each must be turned to these ends if we are to find real happiness.

How often have we seen recreation leaders subvert these basic powers in meaningless games or idle hobbies? As a nation, we look more and more to adult educators, librarians and ministers to challenge our intellectual powers. The specialized teacher in music, art or writing inspires our creative powers. Physical educators lead the way to glorifying our physical powers. When it comes to recreation, all too often we get game leaders.

Outmoded ideals add up to one reason why this state of affairs exists. To much emphasis on training activity leaders and not enough on training philosophers might well be another reason. I would suspect, too, that preoccupation with *organized* recreation would be another.

As a profession, recreation has struggled up from the playgrounds, and on the way it has fought educators, park executives and city councils for status—and rightly so. But, in the process, it has had to lay great emphasis on the importance of *organized* activities; so much so that it has sold itself a bill of goods to the effect that organization is the *sine qua non* of recreation. This just isn't so. There's much

more to recreation than that. As individuals, all of us know that a great deal of our leisure time must, and should be, unorganized.

Our family plays together often, and we like it. We could do with a few more ideas and a few more facilities; and we would like to be able to turn to our recreation professional for help. But, when we do, we find that he is much too busy organizing groups to give us any advice and stimulation.

What all this adds up to is that many recreation leaders are missing the boat. As a nation, we desperately need leadership in helping us to use our leisure time to achieve true happiness. That leadership ought to come from the recreation movement, but it is being held back by an outmoded tradition that recreation consists largely of organized play activities.

As a starter for correcting this state of affairs, I would suggest two things, one in the realm of theory and the other in the realm of practice. I'd like to see some of our recreation practitioners get together on a realistic and up-to-date statement on the aims of the recreation movement. I would hope to see in such a statement a real appreciation of how the recreation movement should help us take advantage of our non-work time in order to promote "the exercise of vital powers along lines of excellence in a life affording . . . scope."

It should contain some explanation of the recreation worker in terms of a teacher of leisure-time skills and a stimulator of leisure-time interests. I'd like to see the recreation movement become the spokesman and guardian of our free-time opportunities as represented by land and water and by the conditions of life in the communities in which we live. Any such statement of principles ought to set out recreation's stake in developing the highest level of free-time activities, unorganized as well as organized.

On the practical side, I would hope to see a recreation department hire a free-time counselor or coordinator, whose only duties would be to ride herd on the whole range of community leisure-time activities with a goal that envisions a gradual increase and uplifting in the quality and quantity of free-time programs. My free-time counselor would be an idea man, a *hair-shirt*, a philosopher, preacher, a practical adviser, a man of wide interests—in short, the kind of person who could get the community excited about free-time opportunities and then steer individuals and organizations to the proper places for help. He would be interested in everything—sports, dining out, automobile travel, do-it-yourself, gardening, music, art, libraries, discussion groups, nature, camping, picnicking, backyard fun—everything that would go to make our way of life a good one.

In fact, if the people in my community (where we have only a summer playground program) were to ask me how to establish a real recreation program, I'd tell them to start with a free-time counselor like the one I've just described. Perhaps he'd be influential enough to raise the quality of our life, maybe only a little bit at first and then more, until finally a visitor from another continent (or another planet) might come to our community and observe the way we live and conduct ourselves in our free time and comment: "What a fine civilization these people have." ■

# Know Your Adolescents . . . Carol H. Weiss

Drawings by Kelly Oechsli

*The new Girl Scout survey turns a candid camera on the teen-aged girl—her needs, her interests and her dreams.*

**I** DON'T KNOW what's the matter with my girls," a leader of a troop of 13- and 14-year-old Girl Scouts remarked. "We've been together for three years now, and they've always been whizzes at all kinds of crafts and skills and sports. Now they've turned into a bunch of oddballs—cliquing off in twos and threes, giggling every time a boy appears, and wasting the meeting time with chatter and complaints about why we don't have parties and dances every Tuesday and Friday and twice on Saturday. I'm afraid the troop is coming apart at the seams. Even when I suggest activities that have been favorites for years—like camping—they look at me as I'd just crawled out of a prehistoric mound."

This woman has been a topnotch leader; but she's being outflanked by the onset of adolescence. The survey of adolescent girls, conducted for the Girl Scouts by the University of Michigan Survey Research Center, reveals that around the age of thirteen or fourteen, girls start shifting gears in the drive toward adulthood. Up until then, they are concerned primarily with mastering the physical world. Their interests are centered in the present or immediate future. They are close to their families, and their friendships are relatively shallow, easygoing play relationships.

But about the time girls enter high school, their focus shifts to things social. The most striking change is the appearance on the horizon of a new figure—or rather an old familiar figure in shiny new raiment. The boy becomes a consideration to be reckoned with. Endlessly. At 14 most girls start dating. They are vitally concerned about being popular. When asked what things girls worry about, only a quarter of those under 14 mentioned popularity with boys. Among 14- to 16-year-olds, 45% list this as a worry.

Their relation to their girl friends becomes more intense and emotional. Involved in the search for an identity independent of the family, they want a close friend who will above all be loyal and trustworthy. They need someone in whom they can confide and who will share their new and complex problems. These duos can create problems for a leader who is unaware of their special significance for girls at this age.

As our harried leader found, too, social activities such as parties and dances shove old favorites aside and move to stage center. The researchers asked girls what things a club should do if someone were to start a new girls' club. Thirty per cent of the 12-year-olds suggested outdoor activi-

Surveys and analyses that the National Recreation Association is making constantly at the request of localities which want to improve their recreation services, reveal rather uniformly the lack of recreation programs or opportunities for participation by girls from eleven to sixteen. The study made by the Girl Scouts of America points up the same need for more attention to be given this group. The combined evidence, therefore, clearly indicates that this is an important service market for the local public recreation department.—CHARLES E. REED, Director, NRA Field Services.

ties such as hikes, but only half as many 14- to 16-year-olds were interested. Fifty-five per cent of the 12-year-olds suggested social activities; this figure rose to 83% among the 14- to 16-year-old group.

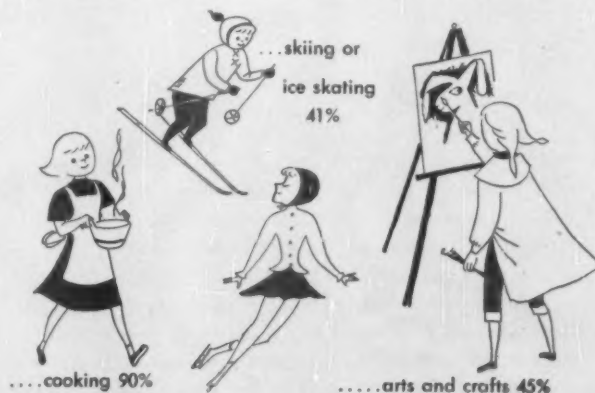
Boys are different; but it complicates life for teen-agers. Boys don't start dating as early as girls. They keep up their interest in sports and games and skill activities long after girls have shifted to the social arena. When asked to suggest activities for a club, fewer than half as many boys aged 14 to 16 mention social activities as do girls of that age (33% compared to 83%).

Not that girls drop all their old interests when they pick up a lipstick. At the 14-to-16 age level, the percentage of girls who participate in sports, outdoor activities, hobbies, and creative activities is still high. The percentages interested in various activities are shown in the sketches at the bottom of these pages.

Nearly all girls want to get married. Ninety-two per cent of them are sure they do, 4 per cent say "maybe" or "don't know," and 4 per cent are against the idea. The nay-sayers are largely younger girls who haven't yet ventured forth on their first date.

Unlike their foremothers in the early part of the century, girls today see no incompatibility between marriage and a

Leisure activities of 14- to 16-year-olds—percentage of girls participating.



MRS. WEISS is a research analyst in the research and statistical division, Girl Scouts of America. Condensed and reprinted with permission from Girl Scout Leader, May 1957.

career. Almost all of them expect to hold a job, too. And in adolescence they are more concerned about choosing an occupation than about getting married. Favorite job choices are secretary, nurse, and teacher. These are the traditional jobs for women that are publicized and glamorized in the mass media. They offer opportunities to be of service and to have a certain professional or subprofessional status.

Girls say overwhelmingly that in selecting an occupation they are not interested in being their own bosses, in being leaders of other people, or even particularly in high pay. What they are looking for is interesting work, nice people to work with (each of these is regarded as an important consideration by over half of all girls), steady work, and the opportunity to help others. Four out of every five girls between the ages of 11 and 18 are already doing some kind of paid work.

About half of all girls, too, receive a weekly allowance from their parents. More of the under-14's get an allowance than do older girls, who presumably are earning enough to keep themselves in pocket money. But when the older girls do get money, they rake in sizable amounts. The most frequent amount of allowance for girls under 14 is between one and two dollars a week. For 14- to 16-year-olds the average is between two and three dollars a week. Of the girls over 16 who get allowances, nearly a third are in the five-dollars-or-over bracket.

Girls' responsibility for making their own purchases is one indication of the freedom that their parents allow them. There is considerable evidence throughout the study that the home atmosphere for today's youngsters is permissive and cooperative. Girls get along well with their parents and share activities with them. Although most girls wish their parents were less strict, they accept the need for parental discipline and generally agree with the specific rules their parents make for them. Half of all girls have some part in making the rules at home.

While adolescent girls are tremendously concerned about themselves—their appearance, their personality, their future—they also have a strong desire to be of service to others. The urge to help people is one of the main considerations in their choice of a future job. And when asked what things make them feel important, about half of them mention help-

ing others. But this is not the tray-favor kind of service. Increasingly, as they grow older, they want their role to be on an adult level. They like to assume grown-up responsibilities in their after-school jobs, at home, and also at school.

Scouting obviously has a great deal to offer girls at this age. But from the age of 14 up, only one girl in 35 is a Girl Scout. Over one-fourth of all girls used to be members (Girl Scouts is the organization most widely joined by younger girls) but have dropped out of scouting since the age of 10.

The reason for giving up scouting is not that girls are less interested in clubs as they grow older. On the contrary, from the age of 11 to 16 there is a steady rise in the number of girls belonging to some kind of club. Girls belong to school activity clubs (54%), church groups (52%), national organizations such as Y's, 4-H, Girl Scouts (45%), and social groups (9%). Most of the national organizations, except for the Y's (YWCA, YWHA, Hi-Y, and so on) and Future Homemakers, have a pattern similar to ours in drop-outs among older girls, but school activity clubs and church groups increase in popularity at upper age levels.

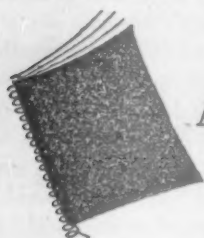
Three out of four girls belong to some organization (28% to one group, 22% to two groups, 12% to three groups, 13% to four or more). But what of the girls who haven't joined at all? The survey reveals that they are more likely to come from the poorer homes where the father and particularly the mother have had less than a high school education. Non-members from every background display less self-confidence, less verbal skill, less maturity in their plans for the future, in their relation to adults, in their social skills and personal resources.

The reasons for not joining a club, at least up through the age of 16, don't appear to have much to do with how much free time a girl has. Members hold jobs outside the home more often than non-members, they more often date, and they participate in more leisure activities.

It seems that the very girls who have fewest outlets and are least mature, the girls who could benefit most from constructive club activities, are the ones who do not join. How do we go about reaching them? Have we unwittingly set up any obstacles that discourage older girls from joining or re-joining anything? ■







## A REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

### People in the News

• **DR. WILLIAM C. MENNINGER**, general secretary of Menninger Foundation, Topeka, Kansas, and member of the NRA Board of Directors, has been chosen as one of nine "Great Living Americans" by the U. S. Chamber of Commerce for his achievement in the advance of mental health.

• **FRANK M. SABINO**, superintendent of recreation in Leonia, New Jersey, was presented with a certificate of appreciation in recognition of the "invaluable services rendered the youth of Leonia" by the local Lions Club.

• **DENNIS MCCARTHY**, former director of parks and recreation for Maricopa County, Arizona, has assumed the directorship of the newly established Arizona State Parks Department. He is also president of the Arizona Recreation Association and a member of the NRA Pacific Southwest District Advisory Committee.

• **JOEL C. HOLIBER** has been appointed as executive director of the Metropolitan New York Council, American Youth Hostels. He had formerly been associated with Boy Scouts of America and the New York University camping and outdoor education program.

• **DOROTHY BOYCE**, supervisor of recreation for Chicago public schools, has received the "Leader in Volleyball" national recognition from the United States Volleyball Association.

### New Officers

Officers of the American Recreation Society for 1957-58 are: Dorothy Taaffe, San Francisco, president; Charles B. Cranford, Philadelphia, president-elect; Sidney G. Lutzin, Albany, New

York, first vice-president; Kathryn E. Krieg, Des Moines Iowa, second vice-president; Oka T. Hester, Greensboro, North Carolina, secretary; and R. Foster Blaisdell, Topeka, Kansas, treasurer.

Geographic representatives: *New England*—John B. Penney, Concord, New Hampshire; *Middle Atlantic*—Frank E. Evans, Englewood, New Jersey; *Central States*—Malcolm J. Elliott, Saginaw, Michigan; *Southeastern*—Mae Crandall, Mooresville, North Carolina; *Midwestern*—J. Nevin Nichols, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; *Southwestern*—Lillian Schwartz, Dallas, Texas; *Western*—Kenneth M. Kurtz, Casper, Wyoming; *Pacific*—Jack Hoxsey, Pomona, California.

Members-at-large: Pat Abernethy, Washington, D. C.; Edith Ball, New York; William Frederickson, Jr., Los Angeles; Ray R. Butler, Shorewood, Wisconsin; and Fred M. Chapman, Minneapolis.

Dream, books, are each a world; and  
books, we know,  
Are a substantial world, both pure and  
good.  
Round these, with tendrils strong as  
flesh and blood,  
Our pastime and our happiness will  
grow.

—WILLIAM WORDSWORTH  
*Personal Talk, Sonnet III.*

### Children's Book Fair

The World Affairs Center, New York City, in cooperation with the children's Book Council, is holding a children's book fair during National Book Week, November 16 to 24.

The fair will exhibit a thousand children's books about other countries, foreign-born groups in the USA, and

also books about the United Nations and related organizations. The entire ground floor of the World Affairs Center will be given over to this unique children's book fair. Film programs and talks by authors and illustrators will be given in the auditorium. The World Affairs Center is a non-profit organization serving as a clearing house and meeting place for all organizations and individuals interested in world affairs.

### Achievement Awards

*Parents Magazine* third annual Youth Group Achievement Awards for community service in 1956-57 went to 121 young people's organizations. Among the winners was the Junior Board of Directors of the Yavapai County Youth Center, Prescott, Arizona. After volunteering to operate the community swimming pool during the summer of 1956, sixty-three youngsters organized formally to provide a clubhouse for teens and have collected \$2,000 through the sale of youth bonds.

Other winners are a youth organization in Georgia, which has set up the first Scout troop in the world for blind children; a group of ten-year-olds in Brooklyn, New York, who have "adopted" as grandparents twenty-two lonely inmates of a home for the aged; ten victims of cerebral palsy in California, who make tray favors for a children's ward; and a church club which reseeded the Malibu, California, mountain fire area.

### First County Park Re-Studied

The NRA has just completed a re-study of a portion of Branch Brook Park, Essex County, New Jersey, which was the first county park in the United States. It was designed by Olmsted Brothers, Brookline, Massachusetts, in 1899. Union County, New Jersey, and Westchester County, New York, have followed with the development of outstanding county park systems.

The present Essex County study was made necessary by the abandoning of the park reservoir as a reservoir. The concept of parks has changed during the years to include spaces for recreation; and the purpose of this study is to make area useable for the enjoyment of active recreation.



### Nautical Elbow Room

With the phenomenal development of pleasure boating has come an anguished cry for more mooring, berthing and anchorage facilities. Pleasure boat skippers look particularly for the protection and accessibility of a berth along a finger pier easy to reach by car.\* They also want fresh-water hose connections and a 110-volt electric current to "spell off" batteries.

New Jersey has embarked on an ambitious program of developing new marine playgrounds by dredging mud flats and creating new rivers, creeks, bays and coves. The latest waterway to be tackled by the state division of conservation and economic development is the Shrewsbury River area which affords boating facilities not only for residents of New Jersey and New York but for soldiers stationed at Fort Monmouth and Sea Scout units of the Boy Scouts, who combine overnight camping with their seagoing.

The \$1,500,000 public marina, dedicated in September at Clam Creek, Atlantic City, will be, when completed in 1960, the largest, most modern and complete facility of its type on the 120-mile New Jersey coast. Financed and constructed jointly by the state and Atlantic City—site of next year's National Recreation Congress—the marina is designed to accommodate visiting craft en route between New England, New York, other Jersey harbors and southern waters.

In addition to an ultra-modern administration building which will not be fully occupied until next spring, the yacht basin will eventually boast 370 slips designed to accommodate boats ranging in length from 30 to 175 feet.

Other facilities being built are electrical and television outlets for each berth, as well as water, ice and fuel depots where skippers can replenish their supplies. When additional funds are appropriated by the city and the state, a 1,200-automobile parking lot and a heliport will be added.

Boat occupants and crews may be paged twenty-four hours a day through amplifiers located on the individual

piers. Taxis and rental cars are also available near the administration building. The sheltered harbor is accessible during all weather, the whole year round.

The state operates three other marinas which are located at Forked River, Leonardo and Point Pleasant.

### Junior Museums



The Junior Museum in Greensboro, North Carolina, is a cooperative community affair, started a year ago by the parks and recreation commission, recreation department and other agencies. Here museum director Walter Martinetti holds a workshop session for the volunteer personnel.

The growing number of junior museums across the nation is providing an absorbing outlet for nature activities with particular emphasis on "education through recreation" and on live and outdoor exhibits and programs. A five-year project by the National Foundation for Junior Museums is providing California with ten new junior museums. Eight are already in operation (Kingsburg, Stockton, Carmichael, Sacramento, San Jose, San Mateo, San Rafael and Fresno); the Diablo Junior Museum in Walnut Creek will be open on a daily basis by the end of 1957; and the tenth project, the Happy Isles Nature Center in Yosemite National Park, is under way.

A new two-year project by the foundation is providing junior museums for Morristown, New Jersey, Greensboro, North Carolina, Savannah, Georgia, and Corpus Christi, Texas.

The junior museum movement is also receiving much attention in India where the government is planning a children's museum in Delhi. India's first junior museum opened in Amreli in 1955.

### Bridge, Anyone?

Planning a bridge tournament in your program? The booklet *Let's Play Cards* will tell you how to organize and conduct it. It's available (without charge to recreation leaders who write for it on their official letterhead) from the

Association of American Playing Card Manufacturers, 420 Lexington Avenue, New York 17, New York. And from the same source can be obtained a delightful little booklet, excellent for beginners, *How to Start Playing Bridge in 22 Minutes*, priced at only ten cents. Mention RECREATION when ordering.

### Ways and Means

✚ A North Tonawanda, New York, bank has made available to the city 495 feet of riverbank land, for the sum of one dollar.

✚ A former Army reception camp in Orangetown, New York, is being converted into a 2,000-family community, Shanks Village, by private developers who have set aside fifty of the project's seven hundred acres for two park and recreation areas, one hundred acres for five public schools plus additional acreage for churches, community buildings and shopping centers.

✚ Hoffman and Swinburne Islands in Lower New York Bay have been purchased from the federal government by New York City for \$10,000, a gift of Bernard Baruch. The two islands will be joined by filling in the shallow water between them and be made into an ocean park.

✚ The Nature Conservancy, a private organization "dedicated to saving America's heritage of wild nature," recently took title to the Battle Creek Cypress Swamp in Calvert County, Maryland. The Conservancy has also acquired Dome Island in Lake George, New York.

✚ An automobile-free recreation area is being developed in Stamford, Connecticut, as part of its \$1,600,000 Cove Island Park project. The park is divided into two sections, forty acres on the mainland and forty acres of island, and will have two beaches and a modern marina. A tractor-drawn observation train of "Minicars" will provide transportation to the island across a main causeway or bridge. This is a historic area from which the China clipper ships once set sail. ■

\* See "The Modern Marina," RECREATION, February 1956, page 80.



Help children discover the miracle of good literature! Participate in your community book fair program.

A child on a playground in Saginaw, Michigan, delightedly surrounds herself with a mountain of books.

"Boy, I'm goin' to ask for that big baseball book today!" Eagerly they flock to the mobile library for books.



# "Explore with Books"



Scene from "Peter Pan's Magic Pipes" brings to life the beloved Wendy, Peter and Tinker Bell.

THE WINNING SLOGAN for Children's Book Week 1957, above, is certainly applicable to the adventuring in storyland that is a part of the program of many recreation departments throughout the nation.

We are familiar with storytelling on the playground—preparation for which is done, of course, from storybooks; and, too, there is the magic of reading aloud, which can open the door to fabulous adventure. The acting out of stories by creative dramatics groups, or by the puppets made by the children is also a part of the storybook scene. . . .

Then there are the bookmobiles or bookwagons, sponsored by community agencies in cooperation with the local library, familiar to so many of us and exposing many more children to the fun of reading and the exploration of new horizons through books.

"The library walls are breaking down and books are overflowing not only to community centers, playgrounds, suburban homes, but to the hinterlands as well," according to the *Christian Science Monitor*. "In Massachusetts they are being stretched to include areas as big as one thousand square miles. Coursing down through birch groves and up rocky roads, the bookmobile and its children's specialist reach into the remotest hamlets. A day spent with her makes one realize how strong is the thirst for books in these rural areas." And books are for recreation as well as for learning; as you know, these two go hand in hand.

Recreation leaders, therefore, carry a responsibility toward calling the right kinds of books to the attention of children—the kind that will stimulate their imaginations and help them grow. One way in which leaders can do this is by cooperating with their local libraries, perhaps in a year-round series of adventures with books, using Book Week, or the local book fair, as the springboard for a program which will promote continued "exploring with books."

# Books"



"Mom will enjoy these, too." Adults share in reading programs.



"We've read all of them!" As many as sixty books are left with one country family.

Teen-agers, right, are enjoying library facilities as a part of a book program.



## Cooperative Venture

In Lawrence, Kansas, the traveling library is a cooperative project, the idea for which was generated by a conversation between Wayne Bly, superintendent of recreation, and Leroy Fox, city librarian. Each was anxious to expand the extensive summer reading program sponsored by the library and the Lawrence PTA Council. It was felt that both the reading and the playground program would benefit if a bookmobile could be obtained. Neither the recreation commission nor the library had the equipment or finances to carry the project. They, therefore, appealed to the Junior Chamber of Commerce which responded immediately with an offer to pay the rental on a trailer. The library constructed shelves in it and set up a checking system. The city schools assisted in the program by furnishing a librarian for the wagon. A storyteller was hired by the recreation commission to accompany the library.

During the summer the recreation commission arranged for the library to be pulled to each of eight playgrounds and scheduled either all morning or in the afternoon, with two half-days for checking and filing. Books were taken out one week and returned the next. Children could check out books at either the public library or the book wagon for credit on the reading program.

Through this cooperation of various divisions of public service, many enjoyable hours were spent by Lawrence boys and girls who might otherwise have missed an opportunity to read good books.

## Playground Libraries

In Saginaw, Michigan, Frances Dunn, children's department director for the public libraries, feels that "books can be an integral part of a playground program." Miss Dunn,



Storytelling and reading aloud, either or both, transport the young listeners from the playground to far-off magic worlds.

aided by Mrs. Nelda Hinz, extension department assistant, and other library staff members, each summer puts together a selection of books for use on each city playground.

Playground libraries are contained in large wooden boxes with shelves and consist of from seventy-five to one hundred books. Youngsters check books out just as they do from the city libraries. And they take good care of the books. Of approximately thirteen hundred books placed on playgrounds last summer, only seven wound up missing. ■





## Stories at Christmas Time

Mary Strang

**E**ACH YEAR as I gather the children together in the hush of candlelight for the library's Christmas Eve story hour, there seems to be mingled for a moment with the scent of pine and fir, the fragrance of clove and cinnamon and warm yeast rolls rising on the back of the kitchen stove. I can see again in the bay window the Christmas tree aglow with candles, tinsel, iridescent birds, and small red cotton Santas, and I can hear my father reading—"In the time of swords and periwigs and full-skirted coats with flowered lappets—when gentlemen wore ruffles and gold-laced waistcoats of paduasoy and taffeta—there lived a tailor in Gloucester. . . ."

How I loved as a child the sound of the "stuffs"—the "satin, pompadour, and lutestring," the "cherry-coloured corded silk," the "gauze and green-worsted chenille!" How I delighted in the old rhymes heard by Simpkin on Christmas Eve from the garrets, the eaves, and behind the wooded lattices of the old houses of Gloucester! How I rejoiced in the goodness of the little mice, the repentance of Simpkin, and "the luck of the tailor of Gloucester!" Remembering my own childhood, I could never quite enjoy a Christmas Eve with children if I did not share with them the beloved story of Beatrix Potter.

Thus it should always be at Christmas. The beauty of the season lies not only in its special religious significance but in the bonds of tradition which draw us together in a common heritage of fellowship, a heritage as ancient as man's first rejoicing in the return of the sun at the time of the Winter Solstice. When I first began my work in the library, I was sent to two neighborhoods with mixed religious backgrounds. Both were served by children's librarians deeply loved and respected by the whole community. At Christmas time, one used in her programs only the secular material; the other introduced St. Nicholas through Eleanor Farjeon's *Ten Saints*, told the story of the Maccabees and had the candles lit at dusk during the eight days of Hanukkah, and on Christmas Eve read the story of

the Nativity. Each, being true to her own convictions, enriched the lives of the children and drew them together in her own way. This, it seems to me, is a lesson worth learning and, as I mention the stories which have been used successfully in our libraries, let it be borne in mind that they are no more than suggestions for others who will be reading and telling stories to children during Christmas season, and that the success with which they are used will always depend on the story-teller and the mood she creates through her own heritage.

We begin our season in the library with St. Nicholas Eve on December 5th and end on Twelfth Night, January 6th. In our programs we may read or tell old favorites with no more reason than mine for *The Tailor of Gloucester*, but as a rule we plan them on themes which bring out the many facets of our Christmas heritage. Music and poetry have their place, and with those who have the time and staff for it, the puppet show may be the chief event of the season. We use several editions of *The Night Before Christmas*, many of them now out of print but always new and exciting to the children. The favorite is always that illustrated by Elizabeth MacKinstry with its double-page spreads of the reindeer dashing over the rooftops and the enchanting toys in Santa's bag. Eleanor Farjeon's *Come Christmas*, Jean Thoburn's *Away in a Manger*, and Anne T. Eaton's *The Animals' Christmas* and *Welcome Christmas!* are favorite sources for poetry though many other anthologies are used. *The Cherry Tree Carol* is lovely to read or sing.

We sing informally with the children, unaccompanied (unless we are fortunate enough to have someone on the staff who plays recorder, flute, or guitar) and we use, as a rule those collections of songs which are also picture books: the Van Loon and Castagnetta *Christmas Carols*, Tertius Noble and Helen Sewell's *A Round of Carols*, *The Twelve Days of Christmas*, and so on.

In our story hour we usually tell our stories, learning them well to achieve that intimate ease and facility of tongue so essential in all good storytelling. Some material, however, should be read. On St. Nicholas Eve, for instance, we will tell "How the Good Gifts were Used by Two" from Howard Pyle's *Wonder Clock*, but we read "Olaf's Dream" from *Knickerbocker's History of New York* and the "St.

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MISS STRANG is children's librarian in the Nathan Straus Children's Room, Donnell Library Center, New York City. Reprinted with permission from *Getting Ready for Christmas*, published by the Arts Cooperative Service, Inc., New York, N. Y. Pp. 32. Paper \$75.



Nicholas Festival" from *Hans Brinker*. Other suggestions for yuletide material include:

#### Stories to be Told

- "The Happy Prince," *Happy Prince and Other Tales*, Oscar Wilde.  
 "How the Good Gifts Were Used by Two," *Wonder Clock*, Howard Pyle.  
 "The Voyage of the Wee Red Cap," *Long Christmas*, Ruth Sawyer.  
 "Schnitzle, Schnotzle, and Schnootzle," *Long Christmas*, Ruth Sawyer.  
 "The Crib of Bo'Bossu," *Long Christmas*, Ruth Sawyer.  
 "Fiddler, Play Fast, Play Easter," *Long Christmas*, Ruth Sawyer.  
 "The Wee Christmas Cabin of Carn-naween," *Long Christmas*, Ruth Sawyer.  
 "The Elves and the Shoemaker," *Fairy Tales*, William and Jacob Grimm.  
 "The Cat on the Dovrefell," *East of the Sun and West of the Moon*, Gudron Thorne-Thomsen.  
 "Every Man Heart Lay Down," *How God Fix Jonah*, Lorenz Graham.  
 "The Peterkins' Christmas Tree," *Peterkin Papers*, Lucretia Hale.  
 "Demerara Sugar," *Fairy Caravan*, Beatrix Potter.  
 "The Christmas Cuckoo," *Granny's Wonderful Chair*, Frances Browne.  
 "The Christmas Masquerade," *Pot of Gold*, Mary E. Wilkins.  
 "The Legend of the Christmas Rose," *Christ Legends*, Selma Lagerlof.  
 "The Rose and the Ring," *Christmas Books*, William Thackeray.  
 "The Christmas Spider," *Marguerite de Angeli, in Eaton's Animals' Christmas*.  
 "Cinderella," *Told Again*, Walter de la Mare.  
 "The Fir Tree," *Fairy Tales*, Hans Christian Andersen.  
 "Wee Robin's Yule-Song," *Tales of Laughter*, Kate Douglas Wiggin and Nora A. Smith.  
 "The Three Magi," *Tiger and the Rabbit*, Pura Belpre.

And the following books:

*The Nutcracker of Nuremberg*, Alexandre Dumas.  
*The Velveteen Rabbit*, Margery Bianco.

#### Stories to be Read

- "Olaf's Dream," *Knickerbocker's History of New York*, Washington Irving.  
 "The Coming of Nicholas," *Nicholas: A Manhattan Christmas Story*, Anne Carroll Moore.  
 "The Festival of St. Nicholas," *Hans Brinker*, Mary Mapes Dodge.  
 "Christmas," *Nino*, Valenti Angelo.  
 "Christmas," *A Norwegian Farm*, Marie Hanson.  
 "Christmas Eve," *Dobry*, Monica Shannon.  
 "Dolce Domum," *Wind in the Willows*, Kenneth Grahame.  
 "Playing Pilgrims," *Little Women*, Louisa May Alcott.  
 "Christmas! Christmas!," *Tag-Along-Tooloo*, Frances Clarke Sayers.  
 "A Letter from Santa Claus," *Middle Moffat*, Eleanor Estes.  
 "The Christ Child," *Pictures*, Maud and Miska Petersham.

And the following books:

- Hansi*, Ludwig Bemelmans.  
*Noel for Jeanne-Marie*, Francoise (Seignabosc).  
*All Through the Night*, Rachel Field.  
*The Steadfast Tin Soldier*, Hans Christian Andersen.  
*Hansel and Gretel*, William and Jacob Grimm (Illustrated by Warren Chappel).  
*The Magic Fishbone*, Charles Dickens.  
*The Christmas Whale*, Roger Duvoisin.  
*The Christmas Bunny*, Will and Nicolas (William Lipkind and Nicolas Harcourt).  
*A Christmas Carol*, Charles Dickens.  
*Miss Muffet's Christmas Party*, Samuel M. Crothers.  
*Bertie's Escapade*, Kenneth Grahame.  
*Lullaby, Why the Pussy-Cat Washes Himself So Often*, Josephine Bernhard. ■



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# CHRISTMAS

FIG. 1



FIG. 2

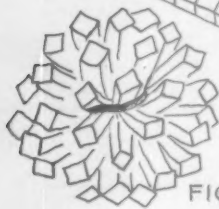


FIG. 2A

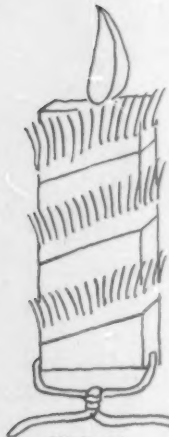


FIG. 3



FIG. 3A



FIG. 4

## COMMUNITY HOLIDAY GIFT

A series of free Christmas lecture-demonstrations called "Holiday Hints" was the result of an idea conceived in one of the regular staff meetings of the San Mateo, California, Recreation Department. The previous year we had sponsored a series called "Home Decorations for Christmas," and the response had been overwhelming. Unfortunately, we were unable to cope with the thousands of ideas the group seemed to want, and attendance dropped off radically.

We knew, therefore, that public enthusiasm for a Christmas-idea session was very real; and we also knew that the interest span ranged from holiday foods to door swags. A group of Christmas lectures, covering as many Christmas subjects as possible, was planned. We listed all these subjects and consolidated them into the following five sessions with a specialist scheduled to talk in each field:

- *Creative Christmas Cards.* Block printing, inner-tube and felt printing, resist printing, simple silk screen, wrapping papers.
- *Gift Wrapping.* Theme ideas, bows and ties, decorative wraps, food packages, parcel posting.
- *Floral Art and Christmas Decor.* Centerpieces, door swags, mantel pieces, special demonstrations.
- *Christmas Ornaments and Crafts.* Tree fantasies, craft ornaments, home decorations.
- *Creative Holiday Foods and Table Ideas:* Decorating cakes, pies, and cookies, hors d'oeuvres, children's food ideas, food gift ideas.

We offered the series free, our "Christmas gift to the community."

The next step was to find people to do the lecturing, and this, of course, was the biggest assignment. We had set a tentative budget of one hundred dollars for the lecturers. After talking

with dozens of people, including members of our craft classes, instructors, floral designers, librarians, adult education administrators and many others, we started calling selected people. Within two weeks we had our lecturers signed up, topics ironed out and dates definitely set.

The public library basement was the best available location. It had a platform that seated approximately one hundred, so all except the floral art session were scheduled there. The latter was held at the shop providing the lecturer. The program was scheduled to start on November 14, the fifth and final session to be on December 12, missing the holiday rush. All sessions were held in the evening.

Handbills were printed by the offset method and distributed to organizations and individuals expressing an interest in this type of program. The library also placed them on the sign-out desk, and its supply was replenished several times. Other publicity appeared in local and San Francisco newspapers, as well as on public information radio programs. One of our lecturers was scheduled for an interview on the radio, and she mentioned the series during her program. A five-foot foil Christmas tree, made by one of the instructors, was placed in the lobby of the library the first week of November, and served as our "theme tree." It was flooded with spotlights and attracted a great deal of attention.

The attendance at the sessions averaged ninety persons. Some of the participants attended all the sessions, while others came to just the one or two of particular interest to them. All those present signed a register and indicated what other types of programs might interest them.

As a department, we were very pleased with the reception given our "Holiday Hints" program, which will undoubtedly continue and grow in years to come. Not only did we ac-

# Classes and Crafts

quaint many new people with the services of the San Mateo Recreation Department, but we were able to provide the public with the type of program they wanted—which is, after all, our purpose.—CAROL BROWN, *Recreation Supervisor, San Mateo, California.*

## CRAFTS FOR CHILDREN

Christmas crafts—or crafts for any season or holiday, for that matter—get a head start in Long Beach, California, through the stimulation provided in the children's crafts preparation room. Located near the main recreation office, it is easy for the directors of the nineteen play areas to visit. From the many craft projects on display, the supplies and the bulletins available, they take back all sorts of suggestions for crafts children enjoy.

At Christmas the room is gaily decorated. Two of the windows are painted with poster paint to look like stained-glass windows. Angels and choir girls are everywhere. Hanging from white index tabs glued to the plaster ceiling are all sorts of tree decorations. They are simple, attractive, and can be made by children from low-cost materials. A make-believe fireplace and a small tree with bright decorations add a traditional touch.

Right after Christmas all these disappear, and New Year's decorations, then those for the February holidays, Easter, spring, and so on, replace them—a never-ending treasure trove of craft projects for all occasions.

About four years ago, the idea of letting the children make the decorations for the big, 188-foot Christmas tree for the City Hall got started. Now it's a tradition, and the city fathers look forward with interest to seeing what the tree will be like each year. A white tree has displayed the ornaments very effectively for the past two years; this year we may leave it green.

Every municipal play area takes part. Samples are made in the preparation

room, and each area makes twenty-five of a selected ornament for the City Hall tree. A sample and a kit of supplies are given to each area. Actually, most of the children make three ornaments—one for the City Hall tree, one for the area tree and one to take home for the family tree. Each area sends its group of twenty-five ornaments to the preparation room and receives public credit for its ornaments.

Last year foam-rubber ornaments were featured, so five areas made them. Other ornaments made were metal-foil angels, plastic-foam candles, tassels, paper-cup bells, glitter stems, straw-drops—to name only a few.

Work starts early in November, with a deadline of the thirtieth. The tree is painted and flameproofed by the maintenance crew of the department, which is responsible for all city trees. The lights belong to the department. The tree takes five strings of twenty-five lights, outdoor type. Staff members hang the ornaments on the lower limbs, and two maintenance men do the high climbing.

Our carpenters made two huge candles, about five feet tall and eighteen inches in circumference, painted a brilliant red, and we put a twelve-inch neon-tube light in the top of each. These stand in the hall approaching the tree. The name of each play area and a sample of the ornaments made by each are pinned on these candles.

Materials used in the ornaments include metal-foil paper, chenille humps, pipe cleaners, felt, oilcloth, gummed crepe paper, plastic-foam balls, sheets of plastic-foam, colored foam rubber, paper cups, ice cream cartons, and the like. The examples that follow are only a few of the many chosen and made by the youngsters as a Christmas gift to the City Hall.

### Star Angel

**Materials needed:** Metal foil, one-and-a-quarter-inch plastic-foam ball, yarn,



FIG. 5

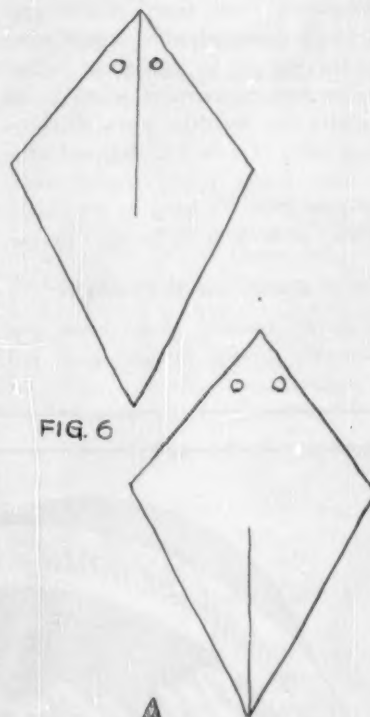


FIG. 6



FIG. 6A



scissors, pipe cleaner.

**Directions:** Cut two five-pointed, six-inch stars from metal foil. Use a plastic-foam ball for the angel head; push a pipe cleaner through the center of the ball, leaving a short piece at one end for a tree hook. Staple the stars to the long piece of pipe cleaner and then staple the stars together. Decorate the face with metal foil (*Figure 1*).

#### Foam Ornaments

**Materials needed:** Foam rubber, pipe cleaners, scissors, gummed crepe paper, plain crepe paper.

**Directions:** Cut foam rubber into strips (a three-inch-wide strip of foam rubber should be cut about fifteen inches long, a narrower width would require less length). Slash strips on both sides (*Figure 2*). Roll and wrap a pipe cleaner tightly around center (*Figure 2A*). To hang on tree, make a loop or hook from the pipe cleaner.

#### Candles for the Boughs

**Materials needed:** Plastic-foam, pipe cleaners, chenille humps, metal foil,

sequins, small pins.

**Directions:** Cut a candle, five inches high, by one-inch wide, from a one-inch-thick piece of plastic-foam; leave it square or round it by sanding. To make candle in *Figure 3*, cut strip of metal foil one-inch wide, slash it to make a fringe, and curl fringe slightly. Put a yellow and a red chenille hump together and push into the top of the candle for flame. Put a pipe cleaner through the bottom of the candle and fasten to branch of tree. To make the candle in *Figure 3A*, follow the directions for *Figure 3*, but omit fringe and add sequins.

#### Straw Ropes

**Materials needed:** Yarn, colored drinking straws, metal foil, large needle.

**Directions:** Thread needle with yarn, tie knot in one end. Cut straws into short pieces. Cut various shapes from foil. Alternate stringing straws and foil pieces on yarn (*Figure 4*) beginning and ending with foil pieces, until two inches from the needle. Make loop at end for hanging.

#### Elfin Bells

**Materials needed:** Metal foil, yarn.

**Directions:** Cut a circle three inches in diameter from aluminum foil. Make a straight cut from edge to the exact center of circle. Knot a piece of yarn, leaving end long enough for a bell clapper, and insert at the center of circle. Slide one edge over the other until there is an overlap of three thicknesses and circle is cone-shaped. Tie several in a cluster (*Figure 5*).

#### Tassels Ornament

**Materials needed:** Metal foil or construction paper, yarn, scissors.

**Directions:** Cut diamonds or circles from metal foil or construction paper. Cut along straight line (*Figure 6*) to the center of each. Fit two of them together. Make tassels or pompoms of yarn (this takes about four feet of yarn) and paste or staple to ornament. Insert string through holes of ornaments to hang from the tree (*Figure 6A*).—MRS. LOIS DELANO, craft specialist, Recreation Department, Long Beach, California. ■



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## SPORTS QUIZ PROGRAM

**L**OOKING for ideas for men's or boys' clubs, service clubs, sports banquets—or for a community night program, indoors or out? The following sports quiz, and a new way to put it on, comes from *USAREUR Service Club Notes*.

**Decorations.** Simple. Use pennants of all the major league teams. They can be made of paper, plastic, cloth or felt. Craft groups will enjoy making them. **Music.** If possible, provide a combo group, fanfares, and snatches of songs such as "Take Me Out to the Ball Game."

**Setup.** Arrange the stage or open area as a baseball diamond, using chairs for first, second and third base, microphone for homeplate.

Nine chairs on each side represent the "dugouts"; and seat contestants when they are in the field. When a team is up to bat, the first member is asked a question. If he answers correctly, he goes to first base. If he fails, he is "out," and the second batter comes up. Each time a batter answers a question correctly, he goes to first base and any runners on base advance one base. Three wrong answers bring the other team up to bat. Each batter has his choice of a "single," "double," or "home run" hit, depending on the degree of difficulty of the questions.

Make up your own questions, drawing upon your knowledge, your sports library, other publications and sports experts, being careful to include some questions that are fairly easy as well as some more difficult. Everyone should have a chance at an easy one now and then to keep him from becoming discouraged; but he should have to think too! Don't make your quiz so long that participants have a chance to become bored. Fifteen questions in each category would be about right.

The following are examples of questions that might be asked in each of the categories:

### "Singles" Questions

1. In what sport are the following terms used: "on guard," "feint," "parry," "thrust"?
2. In football, how many points are scored for a touchdown?
3. In horse racing what is a "bookie"?
4. In what sport is the term "squeeze play" used?
5. Where is the famous New Year's Day football game played?
6. What does the umpire call out at the start of a baseball game?
7. By what name was Cornelius McGillicuddy known?
8. In swimming, do you get more power from the arms or legs?

### Answers

1. Fencing. 2. Six. 3. A person with whom one can place bets. 4. Baseball. 5. Rose Bowl, California. 6. "Play ball." 7. Connie Mack. 8. From the legs.

### "Doubles" Questions

1. Are the Curtis Cup matches polo matches, golf matches, or hockey matches?
2. In boxing, which is heavier, a bantamweight or a featherweight?
3. What is the highest possible score in bowling?
4. What is meant by "taking a dive" in a prizefight?
5. What star hitter and first baseman held the record for the greatest number of baseball games played in succession?
6. What does "offside" mean in hockey?

### Answers

1. Golf matches. 2. A featherweight. 3. 300. 4. Pretending to be knocked out. 5. Lou Gehrig. 6. Offensive player goes across the defensive line before the puck.

### "Triples" Questions

1. What sport draws the largest attendance in America?
2. What manager has won pennants in both major leagues?

3. What does the term "double fault" mean in tennis?

4. What young lady is known as the foremost woman swimmer today?

5. Who in baseball are known as "Little Poison" and "Big Poison"?

6. The drop kick in football has almost disappeared. What took its place?

7. What college basketball team had several of its players disqualified due to bribery charges in 1945?

8. What are the gaits of a three-gaited horse?

### Answers

1. Softball. 2. Joe McCarthy, eight with the New York Yankees; one with the Chicago Cubs. 3. Two bad serves. 4. Ann Curtis. 5. Paul and Lloyd Warner. 6. The place kick. 7. Brooklyn College. 8. Walk, trot, and canter.

### "Home Run" Questions

1. Where is baseball's Hall of Fame located?

2. How many innings was the longest baseball game in the history of the majors?

3. Name the only horse that ever beat Man O' War?

4. What are periods in a polo game called?

5. From what date is the age of race horses calculated?

6. Name in order the three heavyweight champions previous to Joe Louis.

7. What have the following in common—Sutton, Mallory, Jacobs?

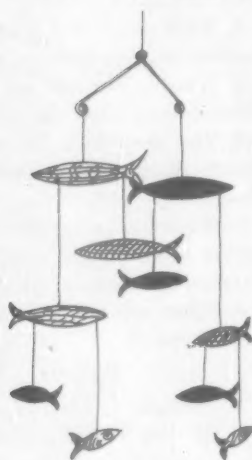
8. Rounders was an early form of one of our national sports. What is it?

### Answers

1. Cooperstown, New York. 2. Twenty-six innings—a 1-1 tie between Brooklyn and Boston in 1920. 3. Upset. 4. Chukkers. 5. From January 1—A race horse born in July, 1930 is said to be two years old January 1, 1932. 6. Primo Carnera, Max Baer, James J. Braddock. 7. They are all women tennis players. 8. Baseball. ■

# How To Do It! by Frank A. Staples

A MOBILE ~ makes interesting decoration for  
SEASONAL HOLIDAYS ~ PARTIES ~ ETC.



## MATERIALS

Fine wire (florist's wire) ~ Cardboard ~  
Tin ~ Paint ~ Black Thread.

## SUBJECTS for MOBILES

Free forms ~ Abstract forms ~

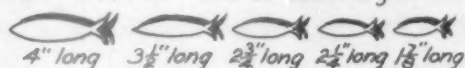
Natural forms

Man-made forms.



## How THE FISH MOBILE was made.

1. Five sizes of fish were cut out of cardboard.  
Ten fish in all ~ two of each size.

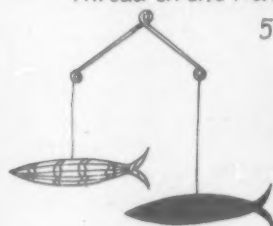


2. Fish painted various harmonizing colors.

3. Wire bracket 8 inches long.

4. Two largest fish attached to ends of bracket with black thread.

Note: Be sure thread is attached to fish at point of perfect balance.  
Thread on one fish is longer than thread on other fish.



5. The remaining fish are now attached in a sequence of sizes so that they are in perfect balance.

Note: The lengths of black threads vary to give interesting arrangement to the cluster of the different sizes of fish.

6. Try one of your own ~ choose a subject suited to the purpose of the mobile.  
If it is for Christmas decorations use shapes such as stars - trees - Christmas ornaments ~ Santa Claus ~ children's toys, etc.  
Your problem is to secure perfect balance so that all parts of the mobile will move independently of all other parts and yet the mobile moves in the slightest air current as a unit.





# Regional Recreation Perspectives

Robert D. Carpenter

## Historical Goals

The development of recreation has been based on the ideal that all who desire recreation activities in the open air should be able to find adequate public open space for their enjoyment. We have attributed to recreation, qualities which improve physical and mental health and moral values. We have attempted to perpetuate, although in a reduced form, the open-space tradition inherited from our past, for the enjoyment of the out-of-doors, and for education in nature lore.

## Growth Factors

Today, in metropolitan areas throughout the United States, recreation development is faced with several important happenings:

1. Our population is growing. In order to maintain today's ratio of recreation lands to people, large acreages will have to be acquired for the future.
2. Our economy is expanding and incomes are rising. More of our people who desire elaborate and land-using recreation activities are obtaining the financial means with which to realize them.
3. People are more mobile. They are able to get into the family car and travel to more distant open spaces quicker and with greater frequency than ever before.
4. We are using up raw land at a greater rate than in the past. More land is required for residences; our highways are wider; suburban shopping centers are built on four to five times as much land as is required for a store's floor area; industry is acquiring four to eight times as much land per manufacturing unit as it did previously; the competition for all types of land is increasing every day.

In the face of all this, it's going to be increasingly hard to obtain adequate recreation lands in the future. Yet, spaciousness is one of the characteristics people seek in recreation areas.

MR. CARPENTER is executive director of the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission of Medina, Summit and Portage Counties, Ohio. He was formerly head planner of the Detroit Metropolitan Area Regional Planning Commission.

## Automation

Automation is one of the most important factors in the recreation picture: the shortening work week and the effect of automation on the leisure time of our people. We have gone through one industrial revolution in this country, in which the muscles of men were replaced by machines and men were retained as operators. An increase in leisure time resulted under these conditions and recreation as an important factor in our lives developed to its present proportions.

We are now at the beginning of a second industrial revolution. Through automation, men as operators of machines are being replaced by machines, and another increase in leisure time is coming. The effect on the further development of recreation is incalculable at this time without additional research, the development of new research concepts and continuous intensive study.

## Background for Recreation

This then is the background from which we look at our regional recreation picture: a growing population; an expanding and rising personal income; people more mobile than ever; greater competition for land for all purposes; an increase in leisure time, and time available for recreation that is beyond reasonable prediction at the present.

## Concern of Regional Planning

Because of its land-use implications, all metropolitan or regional planning commissions should be concerned with recreation. Their concern is for the over-all perspective, for the relation of recreation to other land uses and to transportation, utilities and services. Our concern, on a metropolitan scale, is with recreation land—quantitatively, qualitatively and location wise—to make sure that enough land is provided to accommodate in the future the recreation activities of the people who will be living in those regions.

The major interest is in large recreation areas developed for extensive type activities, such as camping, boating, fishing, swimming, winter sports and picnicking. These are differentiated from intensive local recreation uses characterized by the playground and playfield.

## Recreation Standards

The weakness of the approach to determining future recreation requirements by most agencies becomes apparent upon examination of the basis on which they determine their land requirements. These reveal a variety of attitudes, such as:

- Accepting the limitation of the lands now owned and making the most of them.
- Acquiring lands that have some features to recommend them for recreation use, wherever they may be, and developing them.
- Conserving flood plains and providing parkways.
- Repeating, in some cases with minor variations, the thirty-four-year-old standards of the National Recreation Association.
- Providing playgrounds and playfields to complement the public school system.
- Providing a park or two.
- Stating that more lands are needed, but without further specification or precision.

In practically no instance is there a relation between lands to be acquired and a determination of the need for recreation activities to be accommodated. There is not in existence today a body of information that can indicate what the desires of people are for recreation of various kinds. The consideration of the growth factors and automation, listed earlier, have not been applied. The community or area goals (what are we trying to accomplish) have not been defined with respect to recreation. Recreation programing and land acquisition appear to be pretty much a matter of responding to pressures exerted by various interest groups for projects they are sponsoring.

Recreation desires of the present population must be determined and projected on some logical basis for the future. A great deal of original research needs to be done on the subject of the future trend of leisure time activities in the

highly industrialized regions. Principles, goals and standards must be established explicitly for a determination of future recreation land needs, to serve as a basis for a plan, and as a basis for the future spending of public funds.

A rule of thumb for allocating recreation lands has been in use since 1923, promoted by the National Recreation Association, and with some variations is used throughout the country today. It states that ten acres of park and recreation land should be set aside within the city for each one thousand of the population. For metropolitan regions an additional ten acres of park and recreation land should be allowed for each one thousand of the total population of the region.

## The Magnitude of the Problem

There is great danger in the use of any national standards. They are intended only as general guides. They give no assurance that a community will achieve the kind of recreation development required to meet its situation. At best, they can only indicate, in "round numbers," the magnitude of the problems confronted.

With our present expanding recreation picture, there is a growing need that the thirty-four-year-old general standards of the NRA should be revised, consistent with recreation requirements of a future way of life that is rapidly overtaking us. The question is *how* and on *what basis*?

It would seem most logical that the people best qualified to undertake this work would be the National Recreation Association. Recreation needs a new and expanded philosophy. Principles and goals should be re-defined, to serve as a basis for standards and a determination of land requirements on a metropolitan basis.

If it is not logical or feasible for the NRA to do the job, then it is hoped that in our metropolitan area proper inter-county recreation organizations can make these determinations adequately. In this instance the following recommendations would be appropriate:

1. The scope of the investigation and planning should be sufficiently extensive to cover the recreation requirements of the people living in a metropolitan area projected over a long period into the future. In most cases the area under consideration should encompass a major portion of the state.
2. Acceptable principles of public recreation and desirable standards for recreation land and capital requirements should be developed for the entire area.
3. A statement of recreation needs should be prepared based upon the desires and requirements of the people in the area.
4. A general land plan of public parks and recreation facilities should be prepared.
5. Concerted steps should be taken to coordinate recreation planning and area development among the state, metropolitan park and recreation authorities, the counties, and the municipalities.
6. An organizational structure best adapted to the needs of contemporary and future recreation programs and lands should be provided. ■

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# NOTES *for the* *Administrator*

## The Changing County

In view of the growing interest in the possible organization of recreation services on a county basis, the following pros and cons of the county as a unit of government merit attention. They appeared in a report, *The Government of Milwaukee County*, prepared by the Public Administration Service.

Among major objections to counties as units of government:

- Most county boundaries were laid out one hundred or more years ago.
- Counties have been unable to attract superior personnel to their service and usually have limited financial resources.
- Many county functions serve only the residents of unincorporated areas but county taxes are paid by all residents.
- County organization is ill-adapted to sound public management.
- The county is often a unit for representation in the state legislature.
- County boundaries have impeded the orderly development of metropolitan government.

On the other hand, counties are likely to persist in the future because they have the following virtues commonly possessed by no other unit of government.

- A sizable fraction of the American public knows only the county as a unit of local government.
- Most states are too large in area and too varied in population to render their services centrally.
- It is desirable that the decentralization of state government should be combined with the administration of local government at some level.
- The alternatives to county government are by no means appealing.—From *National Municipal Review*, October 1956.

## Report Writing

Many practical suggestions for effective report writing originated in a recent three-day session for professional engineers sponsored by the University of Wisconsin. Some approaches to report writing that can improve the caliber of communication are:

1. Write in the same manner as you talk.
  2. Organize the report before writing.
  3. Use charts or graphs to dramatize your information.
- Ideas proposed for helping the report to "talk" are:

1. Use the personal pronoun "I" in place of the vague "we" or impersonal "it."

2. Replace deadening past tense verbs with the present tense.

3. Use words that are simple, clear; also short sentences.

Lack of organization is the most common fault in report writing.

Practical ideas presented are:

1. *Report Title*: A title's job is to tell all by itself what the report contains. Write in one sentence the purpose of the report, using as many words as necessary. Then prune words, and compress the title.

2. *Table of Contents*: Always include a listing of the report's contents to enable the reader to locate immediately the section that interests him.

3. *Introduction*: The introduction section often is no more than a letter of transmittal to the mayor and city council or city manager. If the introduction is more extensive, the writer should offer the reader a crisp statement of the purpose of the report.

4. *Conclusions*: This is your "show window." The newspaperman might call this section the "lead" of your story.

5. *Developing Section*: You've introduced the reader to the report, set out your conclusions, and now you've got to back them up. This is the purpose of the developing section.

6. *Summary*: A summary is more a formality than a necessity. If you have clearly stated your conclusions, and the development section is concise, then a summary is only a rehash at best. If a summary is required, however, then briefly restate the problem, results, and procedure.

7. *Appendices*: This is the catch-all for calculations, historical data, and other material of a supporting nature. Such information should be included in a report to back up your conclusions, but place it in this "bin" to avoid cluttering up the body of your report.

Ideas for pictorial statistics are:

1. The symbol should be related in meaning to the statistic; for example, use garbage cans to indicate increases in the workload of the garbage trucks.

2. Symbols on the chart should represent a definite unit of value.

3. The number of ideas presented in a chart should not exceed two or three at the most. A complex chart defeats its reason for existence.

Guides that serve as a final check: Is the problem well stated? Are conclusions stated clearly? Are conclusions well-supported? Are technical terms understandable? Is the organization compact?—From "Effective Reporting Can Help City Government" by Richard A. Carver. *The American City*, June 1957.

## Court Decisions

The following court decisions were recorded in June, 1957.<sup>1</sup>

In action for death caused by negligently maintaining boats in park, it was held such a function is proprietary and renders public corporation liable for negligence. *Ward v. County Court of Raleigh County*, 93 S.E. 2d 44 (West Virginia, May 29, 1956).

A private, non-profit nursery school has no legal right to use public park and building. *San Vicente Nursery School v. County of Los Angeles*, 304 P. 2d 837 (California App., December 19, 1956).

<sup>1</sup> From *The American City*, June 1957.





## Legal Notes and Court Decisions

### Golf Injury

Action brought by golfer against city and golf ball driver for injury received when city employee-starter directed driver to tee off and golf ball struck plaintiff on another fairway. Complaint dismissed as golfer assumed the risks of the game and driver was under no obligation to warn players on contiguous fairways. *Truman versus City of New York*, 143 N.Y.S. 2d 467 (Sup. Ct. Bronx City, June 16, 1955).

### Acquisition Power Established

Statute to ratify and confirm powers, acts, and duties of Town of Huntington's trustee together with prior statutes and case law conclusively establish the Board of Trustees of Huntington's right to acquire beach property, recreation fields, parking areas, and to sell sand and gravel. *Knapp versus Fasbender*, 151 N.Y.S. 2d 668, (N.Y., April 27, 1956).

### Not Attractive Nuisance

Where boy drowned in artificial lake filled and maintained by town, action based on attractive nuisance doctrine could not be sustained where complaint failed (1) to allege where, how, or under what conditions the boy fell into the lake and (2) to cite similar acts by children that could constitute notice to

the town of such a nuisance. *Lovin versus Town of Hamlet*, 90 S. E. 2d 760 (N.C., Jan. 13, 1956).

### Refreshment Stand in Park

Right of park commissioners to maintain refreshment stand in public park situated in residence zone upheld by Court which said that such stand was not a nuisance but was a necessary part of a public facility, a proper accessory use serving the public, and had caused no destruction of neighboring property values. *Board of Park Commissioners versus City of Bay Village*, 141 N.E.2d 769. (Court of Appeals, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, Apr. 24, 1957.)

### Beach Right

In this case a special Act of the State Legislature authorized the Township of Huntington to establish and maintain public beaches on any point within the Town, regardless of conflicting regulations established by any incorporated Villages within the Town. This Act was challenged by two Villages and by taxpayers living there.

In the opinion, the Court held that the special law destroyed the uniformity required under the Constitution, and so was invalid. It was also pointed out that, with the establishment of a beach, the result might be to create heavy traffic congestion and policing hazards. *Incorporated Village of Lloyd Harbor versus Town of Huntington*, 157 N. Y. Supplement (2d) 442 (Supreme (lower) Court, November 8, 1956.)

### Fishing Resort

Zoning change which put his property in residential zone challenged by

operator of fishing resort. Nearby were public golf course, hunting and fishing club, milk distributing station, and sales stable for horses. Residences were on other side of main road. Court held that ordinance making change was invalid as applied to fishing resort as it was in well known "fishing area" and that road was natural boundary between residence area and that devoted to recreation and associated purposes. *Regner versus County of McHenry*, 138 N.E.2d 545. (Ill. Supreme Court, Nov. 26, 1956.)

### Dining and Dancing

Bar and restaurant operated as non-conforming use in house in residence zone. Owner desired to enlarge second-floor facilities to provide for dining and dancing. Court ruled that burden of proving that second floor had been used for dining and dancing when zoning ordinance was passed twenty years ago, rested on owner, and held that dining and dancing were not incidental to the non-conforming use of the house. *Heagen versus Borough of Allendale*, 127 A.2d 181. (N.J. Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Nov. 21, 1956.)

### Clubhouse and Swimming Pool

Granting of permit for operation of clubhouse and swimming pool in residence area upheld by Court. Ordinance permitted "semi-commercial" use and Court held that there was ample evidence to show qualification as such. *Schumm versus Board of Supervisors*, 295 P. 2d 934. (Calif. District Court of Appeal, 3rd Dist., Apr. 18, 1956.) ■

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## Books & Pamphlets Received

ALSATIANS, Lillian Leonard, Dover Publications, 920 Broadway, New York 10. Pp. 95. \$.75.

BAFFLING EYES OF YOUTH (Study of juvenile delinquents), John K. Donohue. Association Press, 291 Broadway, New York 7. Pp. 251. \$3.50.

BASIC RIFLE MARKSMANSHIP. National Rifle Association, 1600 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W., Washington 6. Pp. 30. \$.25.

BEST SPORTS STORIES—1957, Irving T. Marsh and Edward Ehre, Editors. E. P. Dutton, 300 Fourth Avenue, New York 10. Pp. 355. \$3.95.

BOOK OF CONTEMPLATION, A, Dagobert D. Runes. Philosophical Library, 15 East 40th Street, New York. Pp. 149. \$3.00.

BOOK PUZZLE PAD (Crossword puzzle based on children's books), Eugene Maleska. Children's Book Council, 50 West 53rd Street, New York 19.

Each pad contains thirty-five copies of puzzles. \$.35 each, 12 pads for \$4.00.

BUD PLAYS JUNIOR HIGH FOOTBALL, C. Paul Jackson. Hastings House, 41 East 50th Street, New York 22. Pp. 157. \$2.75.

CHILD AND HIS WELFARE, THE (Second Edition), Hazel Fredericksen. W. H. Freeman, 660 Market Street, San Francisco 4. Pp. 364. \$5.00.

COMMUNITY OF THE FUTURE, Arthur E. Morgan. Community Service, Yellow Springs, Ohio. Pp. 166. \$3.00.

CONSERVATION HANDBOOK. Interstate Printers and Publishers, 19-27 North Jackson Street, Danville, Illinois. Pp. 499. \$4.00.

CREATING WITH MATERIALS FOR WORK AND PLAY. Association for Childhood Education International, 1200 Fifteenth Street, N.W., Washington 5. Twelve leaflets. \$.75.

DANCE: A CREATIVE ART EXPERIENCE, Margaret N. H'Doubler. University of Wisconsin Press, 430 Sterling Court, Madison 6. Pp. 168. \$4.00.

DANCE IN PSYCHOTHERAPY, Elizabeth Rosen. Bureau of Publications, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York 27. Pp. 178. \$4.50.

DARTBALL RULES (Revised 1955). Wisconsin State Dartball Committee, c/o Municipal Athletic Division, 461 North 35th Street, Milwaukee 8. Pp. 37. \$.30 (plus three cents postage).

EDUCATORS GUIDE TO FREE FILMS—1957, Mary Horkheimer and John W. Diffor, Editors. Educators Progress Service, Randolph, Wisconsin. Pp. 625. Paper \$7.00.

EDUCATORS GUIDE TO FREE SLIDEFILMS—1957, Mary Foley Horkheimer and John W. Diffor, Editors. Educators Progress Service, Randolph, Wisconsin. Pp. 204. Paper \$5.00.

EGGHEADS IN THE END ZONE (College football), Robert L. Scribner. Exposition Press, 386 Fourth Avenue, New York 16. Pp. 191. \$3.00.

FOOTBALL FUNDAMENTALS, John F. Bateman and Paul V. Governali. McGraw-Hill, 330 West 42nd Street, New York 36. Pp. 290. \$5.95.

GETTING READY FOR CHRISTMAS. Arts Cooperative Service, 322 East 23rd Street, New York 10. Pp. 32. Paper \$.75.

GUIDE TO VISUAL AIDS FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION SPORTS AND RECREATION—1958. Athletic Institute, 209 South State Street, Chicago 4. Pp. 45. Free.

GUNS IN YOUR SCHOOL (Reprint), G. E. Damon. National Association of Sec-

ondary-School Principals, 1201 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington 6. Pp. 6. Free.

HANDBALL—ITS PLAY AND MANAGEMENT, B. E. Phillips. Ronald Press, 15 East 26th Street, New York 10. Pp. 72. \$2.95.

HANDBOOK OF ORNAMENT, Franz Sales Meyer. Dover Publications, 920 Broadway, New York 10. Pp. 548. Paper \$2.00.

HOLIDAY PLAYS FOR LITTLE PLAYERS (Royalty-free plays for children), Deborah Newman. Plays, Inc., 8 Arlington Street, Boston 16. Pp. 286. \$4.00.

MAGIC HOUSE OF NUMBERS (Riddles, tricks, and games), Irving Adler. John Day, 62 West 45th Street, New York 36. Pp. 128. \$2.95.

ONE-ACT-PLAYS: BETWEEN YESTERDAY AND TOMORROW (Japan), Vern Rossman; DARK PLACES, THE (Prejudice), Mae Hurley Ashworth; FEVER-HEART (Japan), Raymond Jennings. Friendship Press, 257 Fourth Avenue, New York 10. Pp. 31 each. \$.50 each.

PAPER SCULPTURE AND CONSTRUCTION, J. V. Miller. Charles A. Bennett Company, 237 North Monroe Street, Peoria, Illinois. Pp. 56. Paper \$1.50.

RECREATION CLUB LEADERSHIP OF, BY AND FOR THE HANDICAPPED—First Annual Conference. Connecticut Society for Crippled Children and Adults, 740 Asylum Avenue, Hartford 5, Connecticut. Pp. 20. \$.50.

RETIREMENT: A NEW OUTLOOK FOR THE INDIVIDUAL, Gifford R. Hart. Harcourt, Brace, 383 Madison Avenue, New York 17. Pp. 179. \$3.95.

SEVENTEEN PARTY BOOK, THE, Enid A. Haupt. J. B. Lippincott Company, East Washington Square, Philadelphia. Pp. 207. \$2.75.

TEEN-AGE PLAYS FOR ALL OCCASIONS (Royalty-free, one act plays), Mildred Hark and Noel McQueen. Plays, Inc., 8 Arlington Street, Boston 16. Pp. 463. \$5.00.

WEE TREE'S CHRISTMAS, THE, James W. Hatch, Box 409, Kinderhook, New York. Pp. 55. \$2.50 (also available in Facil-I-Telformat, \$10.00; pageant form, \$.50; and color pads, 25 for \$2.00).

WILDLIFE CAMERAMAN, Jim Kjelgaard. Holiday House, 8 West 13th Street, New York 11. Pp. 218. \$2.75.

WONDERFUL WORLD OF THE SEA, THE, James Fisher. Garden City Books, Garden City, New York. Pp. 68. \$2.95.

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## PUBLICATIONS

Covering the Leisure-time Field

### Oil Painting

James Bateman. Studio Publications, 432 Fourth Avenue, New York 16. Pp. 96. \$6.50.

A painter of distinction adds a book to the "Studio How to Do It Series." This is for the student beginner who has previously been concerned with drawing. Mr. Bateman reveals his own approach to painting and many valuable tips.

He gives the evolution of painting from primitive times to the present day and provides practical advice on the simple technical aspects of oil painting. Color plates and black and white prints of famous paintings form the illustrations.

### FOR YOUR CHILDREN'S CORNER (Add these in Book Week!)

*The Wee Tree's Christmas*, James W. Hatch, Box 409, Kinderhook, New York. Pp. 55. \$2.50 (also available in Facil-I-Tel format, \$10.00; pageant form, \$.50; and color pads, 25 for \$2.00).

This book was written by someone who has worked with children's groups for many years. Delightful illustrations add much to a new and entertaining Christmas story. An attractive gift book.

*The Craziest Halloween*, Ursula von Hippel. Coward-McCann, 210 Madison Avenue, New York 16. Pp. 16. \$2.00.

Although it is past time for reviewing a Halloween story, we must mention this charming little book. It is about a little witch who has to wait until she is old enough to ride a broom. Weeny was four hundred years old but had another hundred to go. Clever illustrations.

*The Butterflies Come*, Leo Politi. Charles Scribner's Sons, 597 Fifth Avenue, New York 17. Pp. 16. \$2.75.

This brightly illustrated story not only makes an attractive book, but has merit in its own right. It is about the annual coming of a cloud of Monarch butterflies to the Monterey Peninsula in California and the adventures of two children during their visit.

*Terry's Ferry*, Marion Belden Cook. E.

P. Dutton & Co., Inc., 300 Fourth Avenue, New York 10. Pp. 45. \$2.50.

A tale of a small boy with a boat is always fun. This one is no exception, and, in addition, is filled with the suspense and excitement of circus time when Terry meets the performers. Illustrated in color.

### Games to Build\*

Boys Clubs of America, 381 Fourth Avenue, New York 16, New York, Pp. 96. Paper \$2.00.

This spiral-bound booklet solves the problem of how to provide simple, sturdy games for gameroom programs and, at the same time, offers the craft or woodworking department an opportunity to make excellent, useful projects. It gives simple, clear directions for making a number of board games, box games, floor and wall games, game tables and puzzles. Directions for each include information as to age-group, cost, time to make, materials needed, instructions for making and for playing. Construction plans are clear, and a sketch shows the finished project.

The book does not quarrel with commercial games; there are many fine ones. Unfortunately, many commercial games are designed more for home use than for the rigorous wear and tear

they get in a community center or club gameroom. Also budgets often do not permit the purchase or the replacement of many games and gameboards. Here, this book will be valuable in increasing the variety of games on hand, and, at the same time, providing sturdy, long-lasting ones. Highly recommended. The sixty-four projects have all been made and tested.

### How to Make a Miniature Zoo\* (Revised edition)

Vinson Brown. Little, Brown & Company, 34 Beacon Street, Boston 6. Pp. 212. \$2.75.

Anyone who has read the author's two books, *Amateur Naturalist's Handbook*, and *How to Make a Home Nature Museum*, will want to add this to the collection. It should be very useful to camp counselors who wish not only to encourage the study of wild life but also to protect it. Playground or club leaders and parents of boys and girls at the collecting age will find themselves using it frequently.

We might add that an excellent feature of this book is the fact that it does not deal exclusively with Eastern wildlife. Mr. Vinson is a native of the West Coast; therefore he includes species of wildlife native to the West, as well as the East.

The information on how to house, feed, care for and observe insects, spiders, fish, frogs, reptiles, mice, birds and the like is presented accurately and sympathetically.

### Forms and Patterns in Nature

Wolf Strache. Pantheon Books, 333 Sixth Avenue, New York 14. Pp. 22 (plus 88 full-page plates). \$7.50.

Looking for a new design? This beautiful publication is for those who love beauty of form and pattern, who use it either in an art or craft or who just enjoy looking at it. The rhythmic patterns of nature are presented in a series of unique and striking photographs, one to a page. The magnificent designs inherent in ice formation on a river, reflections on moving water, Sahara sand dunes, cracks in dry mud, polished agate, star tracks, leaves, shells, lightning, peacock feathers, tropical fish and other natural phenomena, make up the book. Each page is a photographic masterpiece, and a detailed list of plates provides a scientifically accurate description of each subject. Other printed matter consists only of titles and preface. Add this to your crafts or art library; place it high on your list of gift books!

\* Available from the NRA Recreation Book Center, 8 West Eighth Street, New York 11.

# Recreation Leadership Training Courses

Sponsored by the National Recreation Association

and

Local Recreation Agencies

**November, December 1957, January, 1958**

HELEN M. DAUNCEY  
Social Recreation

Albuquerque, New Mexico  
and adjacent areas  
November 4-8

Dr. Armond H. Seidler, The University of New Mexico, Albuquerque

El Dorado, Arkansas  
November 11-14

Mrs. W. B. Watkins, Director, TAC House, El Dorado

RUTH G. EHLERS  
Social Recreation

State of Vermont  
November 5-14

Mrs. A. O. Brungardt, Vermont Director of Recreation, Montpelier

GRACE WALKER  
Creative Recreation

Poughkeepsie, New York  
January 13-16

Rupert J. Tarver, Jr., William W. Smith Community Center, Poughkeepsie

Bozeman, Montana  
January 20-24

Miss Geraldine G. Fenn, Associate State 4-H Club Leader, Montana State College, Bozeman

FRANK A. STAPLES  
Arts and Crafts

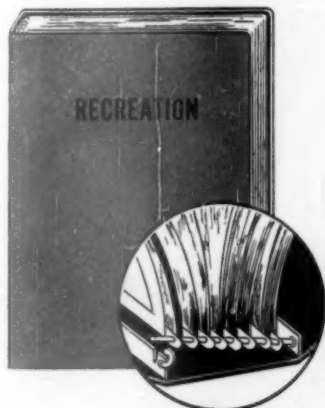
Industry, New York  
December 9-12

John B. Costello, Superintendent, State Agricultural and Industrial School, Industry

Miss Dauncey will be conducting social recreation courses at the following Air Force Bases: January 13-16, Keesler Air Force Base, Biloxi, Mississippi, (for further details, communicate with the Air Force Regional Representative, Wayne Shields, USAF Office of Community Services, University of Georgia, Athens); January 20-23, Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas; January 27-30, Sheppard Air Force Base, Wichita Falls, Texas, (for further details, communicate with the Air Force Regional Representative, Ray Morrison, 248 Casa Blanca, Fort Worth 7, Texas).

Mr. Staples will be at the following Air Force Bases conducting two-week arts and crafts courses: November 4-14, Warren Air Force Base, Cheyenne, Wyoming; November 18-28, Lowry Air Force Base, Denver, Colorado; January 6-16, Chanute Air Force Base, Rantoul, Illinois; January 20-30, Scott Air Force Base (near St. Louis, Missouri). For further details, communicate with the Air Force Regional Representative, Howard Beresford, 3055 Bellaire, Denver, Colorado.

Attendance at training courses conducted by National Recreation Association leaders is usually open to all who wish to attend. For details as to location, contents of the course, registration procedure and the like, communicate with the sponsor of the course as listed above.



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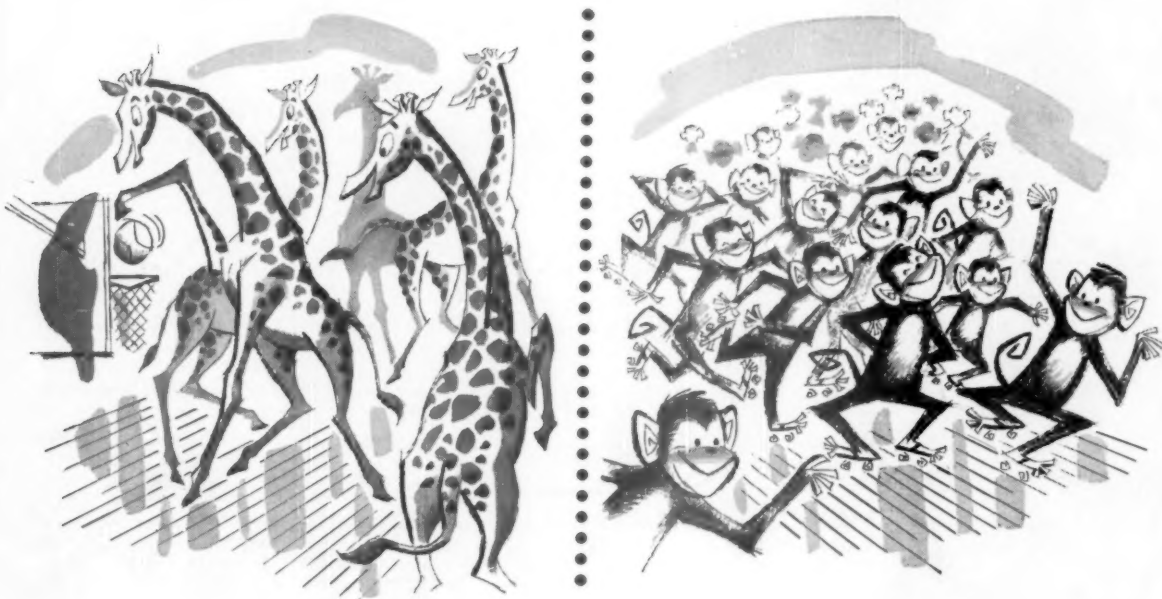
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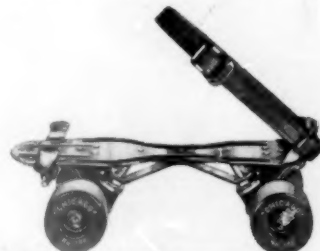
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